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MR. REGINALD DENHAM'S RECITAL.

Mr. Reginald Denham, the clever young artiste who gave a very successful dramatic and humorous recital at the Streatham Hall on Thursday evening last, in addition to being a silver medallist, is a special Corporation exhibitioner and winner of the British Empire Shakespeare Society's first prize. Mr. Denham possesses a pleasing and earnest personality, a rich and well modulated voice, and, we suspect, a fund of dry humour. The pieces he had chosen were well calculated to exploit his talents in sympathetic, funny, and intellectually appreciative directions. Reciting from a draped stage, without the assistance of properties, he was able to entirely interest and enthuse the large audience. The opening item—"Buckingham's Farewell from 'Henry VIII.'"—was a thoughtful piece of work. The recitation (in character), by the old "penny-pathetic" showman, was excellently rendered and warmly applauded. Three poems by American authors cleverly exhibited a lighter style of elocution, and the humorous monologue and duologue, in which latter he was assisted by Miss Marie Cox, A.G.S.M., were given with piquant point. Mr. Denham was excellently supported, both vocally and instrumentally. The singing by the Templars' Quartette of unaccompanied national, plantation, and old English songs, was delightful, the "banjo" and "bouche fermée" accompaniment to some of the solos being particularly appreciated. Miss Leonie Lascelles, still apparently at the "flapper" stage, used her voice very effectively in the waltz song, from "Tom Jones," and, as an encore, archly accompanied herself on the piano in the song, "When the minister comes to tea." The well-known contralto, Miss Nellie Walker, also sang, and pianoforte solos by Chopin and Liszt were executed with much skill by the clever young English pianiste, Miss Rita Neeve, who appeared by permission of the T. Arthur Russell Concert Direction.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee," May 15, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—"Star."

Price 6s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1913

46th YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
THE MOST ENTERTAINING ANNUAL OF THE YEAR.

A COMPLETE COMPENDIUM OF THE THEATRE.

Better late than never, "The Era" Annual has just made its appearance. In addition to articles and stories by popular members of the theatrical profession, it contains a large amount of instructive matter, and full details of all important productions in London, the provinces, Paris, Berlin, and New York.—"Daily Telegraph" Feb. 13, 1913.

"The Era" Annual is to hand somewhat later than usual. It follows the lines laid down by many predecessors. The almanack records many occurrences affecting the profession, as the installation of Mr. Harry Tate as King Rat in 1911, the Baconian Society Dinner of 1912, and the performances of sundry plays that the Censor declined to license. Popular artistes contribute short articles. Sir Herbert Tree, for instance, has a few words on his desire for universal peace. Sir Squire Bancroft tells a pretty anecdote, which one fancies is to be found in his well-known book. Miss Ellen Terry candidly draws on her "Story of My Life." These articles are embellished with portraits of their authors and reproductions of the authors' signatures. There is the usual excellent record of plays, with their casts, produced in London and elsewhere during 1912, and sketches are not forgotten. On the whole the high standard set by previous issues is well sustained, and a useful and trustworthy work of reference is the result.—"Morning Post," Feb. 15, 1913.

The directory section of "The Era" Annual is greatly enlarged and improved this year, and the value of the publication as a work of reference is, therefore, considerably enhanced. Complete lists and casts of all new plays in London and the provinces, and in New York, Berlin, and Paris, are now included; also lists of new music-hall sketches.—"Daily Express," Feb. 8, 1913.

The new issue of "The Era" Annual has many other claims to consideration, for the 1913 issue, capitally edited by Mr. Frank Desprez, is as usual a perfect storehouse of useful information on all matters appertaining to theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom, Paris, Berlin, and New York. In addition to the usual lists and tables of productions, revivals, &c., it contains many stories told by well-known actors and actresses, with excellent portraits of the authors. Among such contributors are Sir Herbert Tree, Sir Squire Bancroft, Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Evie Greene, Miss Phyllis Dare, Miss Marie Tempest, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, Miss Lydia Kyasht, and Mme. Sarah Bernhardt. The 1913 Annual not merely maintains its previous standard—in some respects it goes beyond it.—"Referee," Feb. 9, 1913.

Forty-six and not out, such is the record of "The Era" Annual, and it is one of which any journal may well be proud. Edited by Mr. Frank Desprez, who has been associated with "The Actor's Bible" for so many years, the present year's issue is full of good things, and matters of real import and interest not only to members of the theatrical profession themselves, but to all who are interested in plays and players. The Annual contains, among other things, a number of short stories by well-known players, among others Madame Sarah Bernhardt, Sir Herbert Tree, Mr. Ben Webster, and many more, and is an excellent shilling's worth.—"Pelican," Feb. 12, 1913.

The forty-sixth "Era" Annual has just been published, and, as usual, is full of useful information. In addition to the full casts of every music hall sketch and play that was produced in the United Kingdom last year, there is a series of stories told by well-known people, mostly connected with the theatrical profession. Altogether it forms one of the best shillingsworths of its kind.—"Sporting Life," Feb. 12, 1913.

"The Era" Dramatic and Musical Annual, 1913, Edited by Frank Desprez. (5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.) 1s. This excellent Annual is better got up than ever in the past, and that is saying much. All who are interested in the stage must secure a copy, which is indispensable. A delightful series of articles, by prominent actors and actresses, with the authors' portraits, is a charming feature of the volume.—"Financier and Bullionist," Feb. 8, 1913.

"The Era" Annual is highly valued by all connected with the stage for purposes of reference, and there are also thousands of playgoers who rely upon the familiar volume to keep them thoroughly conversant with matters theatrical. These players will find the Annual for 1913 not less attractive and not less comprehensive than previous issues. First there are given stories, diverting or exciting, of the experiences of well-known actors and actresses, and along with each story is given a fine portrait of the narrator. These stories are followed by an accurate and exhaustive list of all the new plays and important revivals produced at the London theatres from Dec. 1, 1911, to Nov. 30, 1912. Similar lists for the London suburban theatres and for the provinces are also given. Then come the casts of these new plays and revivals, and an alphabetical list of sketches produced. The Annual concludes with excellent portraits of eminent players who have passed away, the obituary list including the names of William Mollison, Florence St. John, W. S. Penley, Emily Soldene, George Grossmith, sen., and Edward Terry.—"Aberdeen Daily Journal," Feb. 10, 1913.

"The Era" Annual, which has just made its appearance, fully maintains the qualities, usefulness, and interest which have characterised the issue for a number of years past. The productions and revivals in the English theatres and music-halls are given in detail with the full casts, and there are also useful lists of the important new plays and revivals in Paris, Berlin, and New York. As usual, many leading members of the profession have contributed interesting stories or anecdotes, and each is accompanied by autographed portraits of the authors.—"Birmingham Daily Mail," Feb. 12, 1913.

Price One Shilling; at all Booksellers and book stalls; by post, Fifteen Pence.

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LONDON AND PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS).

ABBREVIATIONS: In order to effect a saving in space the following abbreviations are used in these columns: P. (Proprietor); P. & M. (Proprietor and Manager); M. D. (Managing Director); L. & M. (Lessee and Manager); M. (Manager); G. M. (General Manager); A. M. (Acting Manager); Asst. M. (Assistant Manager); R. M. (Resident Manager); B. M. (Business Manager); T. M. (Touring Manager); Mus. D. (Musical Director); Mus. C. (Musical Conductor); S. (Secretary); S. & T. (Secretary and Treasurer).

LONDON.

ADELPHI THEATRE. — Sole P., Messrs. A. and S. Gatti.—This week: Mr. Geo. Edwardes' new production, "The Dancing Mistress," musical play, by J. T. Tanner. Lyrics by Adrian Ross and Percy Greenbank. Music by Lionel Monckton. The company includes: Mr. James Blakeley, Mr. F. Pope Stamper, Mr. J. D. Williams, Mr. G. Carlyon, Mr. Ivan Berlyn, Mr. Joseph Coyne, Miss Gracie Leigh, Mlle. M. Caumont, Miss Elsie Spain, Miss Agnes Thomas, Miss Maid Cressall, Mlle. Gina Palerme, and Miss Gertie Millar. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.

APOLLO THEATRE.—Sole P., Mr. Henry Lowenfeld; Sole L. & M., Mr. Tom B. Davis.—This week: "General John Regan," by George A. Birmingham. The company includes: Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Mr. Leonard Boyne, Mr. Franc Stoney, Mr. W. G. Fay, Mr. Henry Wenman, Mr. J. R. Tozer, Mr. S. Grenville Darling, Mr. Patrick Quill, Mr. Bernard Crosby, Mr. Edmund Gurney, Mr. A. Vane Tempest, Miss Gladys Ffolliot, Miss Dorothy O'Neill, and Miss Cathleen Nesbitt. Preceded by "A Little Fowl Play." Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.45.

BARNARD'S THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.—M., Mr. George Hamilton.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. O. Silverstone presents "The Ruin of a Countess." The company includes: Mr. O. Silverstone, Mr. Ernest Dare, Mr. Sydney Humphries, Mr. Geoffrey Chate, Mr. Ted Mooney, Mr. Harry C. Rutland, Mr. Joe Nicholas, Mr. E. Jeffs, Miss Mattie Robertson, Miss Maud Grainger, Miss Mary Douglas, Miss Jessica Ford.

BRIXTON THEATRE.—L. and M., Mr. Fredk. Melville; A. M., Mr. Newman Maurice.—This week: The Clapham and Balham Operatic Society present the musical comedy, "Tom Jones," under the direction of Mr. Frank Mummery. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS, S.E.—L., Moss' Empires, Ltd. — This week (nightly at 7.45): "A Country Girl." Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.

COMEDY. — Every evening at 9: Mr. Arthur Chudleigh presents "Lady Noggs." The company includes: Mr. Lyston Lyle, Mr. E. Evan Thomas, Mr. Ashton Pearse, Mr. Lewis Fielder, Mr. Kenneth Kent, Mr. Arthur Grenville, Mr. Reyner Barton, Mr. Edgar B. Payne, Miss Mary Glynne, Mrs. Saba Raleigh, Miss Mary Mackenzie, Miss Hettie Cavendish, Miss May Warley, Miss Margaret Chute. Preceded by Miss Josephine La Barte. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

CORONET THEATRE, W. — Last week: The F. R. Benson Co., Shakespearean répertoire season. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

CRITERION. — L. & M., Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore.—Every night, at 9, Eva Moore and H. V. Esmond present "Eliza Comes to Stay," by H. V. Esmond. Preceded by "Stacey Aumonier." The company includes: H. V. Esmond, Eric Lewis, Eva Moore, Carlotta Addison. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.—Licensee, Mr. G. O. Starr: B. M., Mr. J. E. Sharpe.—This week (once nightly and Wednesday matinée at 3): Mr. George Dance's company in "The Quaker Girl." The cast includes: Frank H. Crimp, Fred Monti, G. McCloskie, Frederick Hobbs, J. Lennox, John Duncan, Glen Owen, William Greene, Hilda Stuart, Doris Dennis, Ivy Harcourt, Jenny Armstrong, May Marshall, Kitty Develin, Lucille Vivien, Lily Green, Cissie Guiver, Hilda Bellamy, Ida Harvey and Adela Crispin. M., Mr. J. T. Phillips. Next week: "Brewster's Millions."

DALSTON THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. R. King.—This week (once nightly and Thursday matinée, 2.30): Turner's Opera Company present on Monday, "La Sonnambula"; Tuesday, "Faust"; Wednesday, "Il Trovatore"; Thursday (matinée), "Lily of Killarney"; Thursday (evening), "Tannhäuser"; Friday, "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "Daughter of the Regiment"; and on Saturday, "Bohemian Girl." Company includes: Mr. F. J. Hargrave, Mr. Thomas Yates, Mr. Frank Clarke, Mr. Arthur Fisher, Mr. Charles Leverton, Mr. Hubert Dunkerley, Miss Jessie Dennis, Miss Ella Vane, Miss Beatrice Howard, and Miss Kitty Brownless. Next week: "The Quaker Girl."

DALY'S. — This week: Mr. George Edwardes' production, "Gipsy Love," musical play, English libretto by Basil Hood. Lyrics by Adrian Ross. Music by Franz Lehar. Company includes: Mr. Robert Michaelis, Mr. Harry Dearth, Mr. Webster Millar, Mr. Lauri de Frece, Mr. Fred Kaye, Mr. W. H. Berry, Miss Sari Petrass, Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Mabel Russell, Miss Madeline Seymour, Miss Kate Welch. Matinée, Saturday, 2.

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL. — M. D., Mr. Arthur Collins.—This week (every evening, 7.30) "The Sleeping Beauty," by George R. Sims, C. H. Bovill, and Arthur Collins. The company includes: George Graves, Florence Smithson, Will Evans, Wilfred Douthitt, Charles Rock, Barry Lupino, the Poluskis, Irene May, Alice Chartres, and Renée Mayer. Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 1.30.

DUKE OF YORK'S.—Sole L. & M., Mr. Chas. Frohman.—Every evening at 9.30 Charles Frohman and Frederick Harrison present "The Younger Generation"; at 8.30, "An Adventure of Aristide Pujol"; and at 9, Miss Kate Moffat in "The Twelve-Pound Look." Matinées, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2.30.

FULHAM THEATRE.—This week (every evening at 8): Louis Meyer presents "The Glad Eye." Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.

GARRICK THEATRE.—L., Messrs. Arthur Bourchier and Herbert Sleath. — Every evening, 8.45: Mr. Arthur Bourchier in "Trust the People." The company includes: Herbert Bunston, Kenyon Musgrave, Thomas Weguelin, John McNally, Viva Birkett, Marjorie Waterlow. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.20.

GLOBE THEATRE.—Sole L. & M., Mr. Charles Frohman.—Every evening at 9.30: Weedon Grossmith in "Ask Quesbury." The company includes: Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Edwin H. Wynne, Mr. Rudge Harding, Mr. Henry Ford, Mr. Geoffrey Denys, Miss Daisy Thimm, Miss Maud Cressall, Miss Nora Laming, Miss Shelley Calton. Preceded by "A Storm in a Teashop," at 8.15; and Bertram Wallis and his Musketeers at 8.45. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

HAMMERSMITH LYRIC OPERA HOUSE.—Sole P. and M., Mr. Wentworth Croke; A. M., Mr. P. Howard Sturgess.—This week (once nightly and Wednesday matinée, 2.30): Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood's company in "A Clever Impostor." Cast includes: Mr. Herbert Evelyn, Mr. Alfred Richards, Mr. Ern Carlton, Mr. Eric Dare, Mr. Ernest H. Clarke, Mr. William Waring, Mr. Fred Wilberforce, Mr. Thomas Fielding, Mr. James Turnbull, Mr. Arthur Rodney, Miss Theo Henries, Miss Lillie Carter-Livesey, Miss Marjorie Seymour, and Miss Emma Litchfield. Next week: "A White Slave."

HAYMARKET.—L. & M., Mr. Frederick Harrison.—This week (every evening at 8.30): Frederick Harrison presents "The Pretenders." Company includes: Laurence Irving, Basil Gill, William Haviland, Helen Haye, Madge McIntosh, Tita Brand. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree.—This week: "Drake," by Louis N. Parker. Produced by Sir Herbert Tree in conjunction with the author. The company includes: Mr. Frederick Ross, Mr. Philip Merivale, Mr. Bassett Roe, Mr. Herbert Waring, Mr. A. E. George, Mr. Loring Fernie, Mr. Ben Field, Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry, Miss Cicely Richards, Miss Amy Brandon Thomas, and Miss Elenor Foster. Matinées, Wednesdays and Saturdays, at 2.15.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.—This week (once nightly and Thursday matinée, 2.30): Mr. C. Watson Mill presents his company in "Night Side of London." The cast includes: Mr. Terrance Byron, Mr. Alfred Maurice, Mr. E. Hall Eldon, Mr. Henry Earlsmere, Mr. Leslie Lingham, Mr. Francis Cavanah, Mr. James Hussey, Mr. J. Mackarsy, Mr. P. Oscaren, Mr. T. Smithby, Mr. Richard Gibson, Mr. Peter Sturgess, Mr. L. Moure, Miss Marie E. Cotton, Miss Josephine Olga, Miss M. Kitts, Miss Kitty Movill, Miss Vera Grafton, Miss Madge Heyton, and Miss Mary Mallalieu. T. M., Mr. Alfred Hayton. Next week: "A Dark Secret."

KENNINGTON THEATRE. — This week: Every evening at 8: "Ben-Hur." Matinée, Thursday, 2.

KING'S, W.—Nightly at 8: Julia Neilson in "Sweet Nell of Old Drury." Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.

KINGSWAY THEATRE. — P., Miss Lena Ashwell.—Lillah McCarthy, Granville Barker.—This week (matinées, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 2.30): "John Bull's Other Island," by Bernard Shaw.

LYCEUM.—Every evening at 7.45: Walter and Fredk. Melville present "Nell Gwynne, the King's Favourite." Company includes: Mr. Lauderdaile Maitland, Mr. H. Wilmot Jackson, Mr. Fred Ingram, Mr. George Milton, Mr. F. Willing, Mr. Sam Livesey, Mr. Frank Harvey, Mr. Hal Charlton, Mr. W. T. Smith, Mr. Richard Bode, Miss Maud Elliott, Miss Janet Alexander, Miss Olive Eltone, Miss Kitty Ricimer, Miss Marie Housley, Mr. Fred Morgan, Miss Polly Marsh, Miss Florence Carr, Mr. C. F. Collings, Mr. Austen Milroy, Mr. Fred Elsworthy, Mr. Charles Wingate, Mr. Percy Baverstock, Mr. Raymond Wood, Mr. J. T. Macmillan, Miss Tittell-Brune. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

LYRIC THEATRE.—L. & M. Mr. William Greet; Sole D., Mr. Philip Michael Faraday.—Every evening: Mr. P. M. Faraday presents "The Girl in the Taxi," musical play by Frederick Fenn and Arthur Wimperis. Music by Jean Gilbert. Company includes: Mr. Arthur Playfair, Miss Amy Augarde, Miss Margaret Paton, Mr. Robert Averell, Mr. Louis Goodrich, Miss Violet Graham, Mr. Alec Fraser, Mr. C. H. Workman, Miss Yvonne Arnaud, Miss Cicely Stuckey, Mr. Frederick Volpé, and Mr. George Carroll. Matinées, every Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

MARLBOROUGH.—This week, nightly at 7.45: "Charley's Aunt." Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.

MILE END EMPIRE, E.—Harry Bawn presents Joseph Kessler, Mme. Diana Feinman, J. Shearman, and full company in high-class opera and drama. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

MILE END PAVILION THEATRE.—L., Messrs. Maurice Moscowitch and M. D. Waxman.—Thursday and following evenings, at 8.30: Maurice Moscowitch produces Count Leo Tolstoy's work, "The Living Corpse."

NEW THEATRE. — P., Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore.—Mr. Allan Aynesworth's season.—This week: An original comedy, entitled "Ready Money," by James Montgomery. Company includes: Mr. Allan Aynesworth, Mr. Kenneth Douglas, Mr. Frank Denton, Miss Hilda Antony, Miss Alice Russon, Miss May Whitty, and Miss Dorothy Thomas. Preceded by "The Ferret." Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.25. Last week.

PLAYHOUSE.—This week, every evening at 9: "The Headmaster," comedy, by Wilfred T. Coleby and Edward Knoblauch. The company includes: Mr. Cyril Maude, Miss Margery Maude, Miss Kathleen Jones, Mr. Edward Combermere, Mr. J. Harwood, Mr. Charles Bibby, Miss Frances Ivor, Mr. Arthur Curtis, Mr. Jack Hobbs, Mr. Eric Rae, and Mr. Kendrick Huxham. Preceded at 8.20 by "In Haarlem There Dwelt——," a Dutch idyll, with music by Dora Bright. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.20.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE. — L. & M., Mr. Frank Curzon.—This week: Miss Marie Tempest in "Esther Castways," by Jerome K. Jerome. The company includes: Miss Tempest, Miss Marie Polini, Miss Sybil Carlisle, Miss Drusilla Wills, Miss Kate Sargeantson, Miss Rowena Jerome, Mr. Charles V. France, Mr. Horton Cooper, and Mr. Grahame Browne. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

PRINCES. — Every evening (7.45): Walter and Frederick Melville present "The Indian Mutiny." The company includes: Mr. C. W. Standing, Mr. F. C. Leister, Mr. Rothbury Evans, Mr. Wilson Blake, Mr. Herbert Williams, Mr. H. Browne, Miss Blanche Stanley, Miss Lilian Hallows, Mr. Henry Lonsdale, Mr. Albert Ward, Mr. Philip Hewland, Mr. Cleveland, Mr. Geoffrey Patrick, Mr. H. Elsworthy, Mr. F. Doone, Mr. Bachner, Miss Dora Barton. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

QUEEN'S.—This week: "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford," farcical comedy by George M. Cohan. Adapted from the stories by George Randolph Chester. The company includes: Mr. Hale Hamilton, Mr. Julian Royce, Mr. Herbert Vyvyan, Mr. Cecil Cameron, Mr. Laurence Caird, Mr. J. R. Crauford, Mr. Frank Collins, Mr. Eldrett Gulson, Mr. Douglas Gordon, Mr. R. A. Brandon, Mr. Forrester Harvey, Mr. Robert Ayrton, Mr. C. Denier Warren, Mr. Frank Stanmore, Mr. Bryan G. Powley, Miss Madge Fabian, Miss Mary Brough, Miss Elsie Wood, Miss May Leslie Stuart, Miss Simeta Marsden, and Miss Rita Carr. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.15.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.—Director, Mr. Jules Richeux; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Vernon.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance's company in "The Sunshine Girl." The company includes: Mr. Jack Morrison, Mr. Harry Bentham, Mr. Percy Cahill, Mr. Richard Saker, Mr. Chas. McCann, Mr. John Rorke, Mr. Frank Foy, Mr. A. H. Odams, Mr. Fred C. Odams, Mr. Cyril Mayne, Mr. J. Broadbent, Mr. Clifford Warren, Mr. Lionel Greene, Mr. Jack Moriss, Mr. Theodore Leonard, Miss Winifred Volt, Miss Mary Leyland, Miss Cora Engleton, Miss Ethel Monks, Miss Queenie Hare, Miss Mollie Moore, Miss Lily Bell, Miss Netta Tomlinson, Miss Marion Meynell, Miss Ruby Hope, Miss Dorothy Cooper, Miss Jennie Richards, and Miss Mysie Devine. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: "Find the Woman."

ROYALTY.—This week: Messrs. J. E. Vedrenne and Dennis Eadie present "Milestones," by Messrs. Arnold Bennett and Edward Knoblauch. The cast includes: Mr. Dennis Eadie, Mr. Hubert Harben, Mr. Stanley Logan, Mr. Lionel Atwill, Mr. Owen Nares, Mr. Reginald Malcolm, Mr. Lemmon Warde, Miss Haidee Wright, Miss Mary Jerrold, Miss Evelyn Weeden, and Miss Gladys Cooper. Matinées, Thursday and Saturday, 2.30.

SAVOY THEATRE.—Every evening: "Twelfth Night." The company includes: Mr. Arthur Wontner, Mr. Dennis Neilson Terry, Mr. Herbert Hewetson, Mr. Douglas Munro, Mr. Cowley Wright, Mr. Frank Conroy, Mr. Arthur Whitby, Mr. Leon Quartermaine, Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. H. O. Nicholson, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, Miss Evelyn Millard, Miss Leah Bateman Hunter, and Miss Lillah McCarthy. Matinées, Thursday and Saturday, 2.30.

SHAFTESBURY. — Nightly at 8: Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production, "Oh, Oh, Delphine!" The company includes: Mr. Courtice Pounds, Mr. Coningsby Brierley, Mr. Charles Chambier, Mr. Harry Welchman, Miss Winifred Roma, Miss Gwenyth Hughes, Miss Marjorie Compton, Miss Mollie Hanbury, Miss Connie Luttrell, Miss Marjorie Villis, Mr. Walter Passmore, Miss Iris Hoey, Miss Winifred Delvante, Miss Dorothy Jardon, Mr. Fred Lewis, Miss Nan Stuart, Miss Cissie Debenham, Mr. Fred Evison, Mr. Reginald Owen, and Miss Violet Gould. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.

ST. JAMES'S.—Sole L. & M., Sir George Alexander.—Every evening at 8.40: "The Importance of Being Earnest," by Oscar Wilde. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

STRAND. — Every evening: Louis Meyer presents "The Son and Heir," by Gladys Unger. The company includes: Ethel Irving, Ethel Dane, Cynthia Brooke, Norman Trevor, Edmund Maurice, Raymond Lauzerte, Reginald Owen, etc. Preceded by "An Interrupted Divorce." Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.15.

STRATFORD BOROUGH THEATRE.—P., Mrs. C. Ellis Fredericks: G. M., Mr. Fred Fredericks.—This week (once nightly, and Wednesday matinée, 2.30): On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (and matinée), George Edwardes presents "The Dollar Princess"; and on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, "The Merry Widow." The company includes: Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter, Mr. Tom Redmond, Mr. Clifton Hamilton, Mr. Ripley Evans, Mr. Clifford Seyler, Mr. Ernest Climpson, Mr. Haydn Scott, Mr. William Allison, Mr. Fred Maguire, Miss Carda Walker, Miss Florence Ivy, Miss Hilda Laine, Miss Ivy Durn, Miss Mae Jackson, Miss Marie Kappey, Miss Kathleen Storr, Miss May Lee, Miss Lucie Donati, Miss Freda Large, Miss Effie Mann. T. M., Mr. Gifford Stacey. Next week: "The Sunshine Girl."

STRATFORD THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mrs. C. Ellis Fredericks; G. M., Mr. Fred Fredericks; A. M., Mr. F. W. Davies.—This week (once nightly): Mr. C. Watson Mill presents "Mid Pleasures and Palaces." Cast includes: Edward E. Louis, Mr. D. Laurence Doyle, Mr. Horace A. Whitmee, Mr. W. Palliser Acock, Mr. Fred Frank, Mr. Fred Sutcliffe, Miss Myra Eyton, Mr. George Buckley, Mr. Harry Presoner, Mr. C. Watson Mill, Mr. Villiers Stanley, Mr. Richard Oliver, Miss Myra Eyton, Miss Ethel Dobbs, Miss Edith Gregory, Miss Joan Ellis. Next week: "Night Side of London."

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, STRAND. — Every evening at 8.30: Hilda Trevelyan and Edmund Gwenn present "The Schoolmistress," by Arthur Pinero. The company includes: Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Mr. Ronald Squire, Master C. Saint-Eve, Mr. Stafford Hilliard, Mr. Walter Westwood, Mr. Archie McCaig, Mr. Douglas Munro, Mr. Oliver G. Johnston, Miss Winifred Emery, Miss Gwynne Herbert, Miss Muriel Martin Harvey, Miss Nell Carter, Miss Crissy Bell, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Miss Lilian Mason. First matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

WIMBLEDON THEATRE.—This week (nightly at 7.45): "Everywoman." Company including Edward Compton. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.

WYNDHAM'S THEATRE.—P., Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore; under the management of Mr. Frank Curzon and Mr. Gerald du Maurier.—This week: "Doormats," new comedy, by Hubert Henry Davies. The company includes: Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Mr. Alfred Bishop, Mr. Dawson Milward, Miss Nina Boucicault, and Miss Marie Löhr. Preceded by The Quaints. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.15.

ALHAMBRA.—G. D., Messrs. A. Charlot and M. V. Leveaux.—Every evening at 8: New version of "Kill That Fly!" the stop-press revue by George Grossmith. Company includes: J. F. McArdle, Rene Koval, Hugh E. Wright, Christy Solari, Muriel Hudson, Kitty Mason, Rena Parker, and Marjorie Maxwell; also Charlotte Parry, in "The Comstock Mystery"; Six Rag-time Pics.; La Petite Sousa; Paul La Croix; latest topical events on the Bioscope, etc. Saturday matinée, 2.30.

BEDFORD PALACE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—R. M., Mr. Geo. A. Higgs; G. M., Mr. Harry Day.—This week (twice nightly): Geo. Carney and company in "The Fool of the Force"; Mart and Pep, balancers; Lottie Stone's Pyjama Girls, vocalists and dancers; Ralia and Memphis, ragtime dancers; Clifford Morgan, vocalist; Lallie Hall, soprano; Hudson, Lowther and company in "Left Luggage"; Mildred Langley, child pianist; Alfred Willis, comedian; Peggy Pryde, in monologue; and pictures.

BRIXTON EMPRESS.—This week (twice nightly): Upman, the man who grows; the Seven Bramusas; Fred Hastings; Winnie Wayne; Giovani Colombo; New Macs; Bowman and Morton; Gertrude Bibby, protean act; Dorothy Varrick; Harry Brown, comedian; Sid Cotterill and company, in "Tantalizing Terpsichore"; and pictures.

CHELSEA PALACE.—M., Mr. J. Norman Berlin.—This week (twice nightly): Joe Peterman presents "The Stationmaster," including Jimmy Learmouth; Bertram Wallis' Musketeers; Mrs. Royston-Dene and company, in "The Sporting Widow"; Dorothy Varick, in character sketches at the piano; Frank Sylvo, comedy juggler; Arthur Stacey, comedian and dancer; the Five Jovers, gymnasts; Arthur Lennard, comedian; and pictures.

CHISWICK EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): The Grotesques; Fregolia; George Barrett and company; Panama Canal film, etc.

COLISEUM.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll.—Twice daily: Miss Violet Vanbrugh as Lady Macbeth in the Sleep Walking scene, from Sir Herbert Tree's production; Miss Irene Vanbrugh in J. M. Barrie's "Rosalind"; last week, Theodore Kosloff, in "Scheherazade," supported by Mlle. Baldina, Mlle. Lunina, M. Morosoff, M. Dmitreef, M. Alexis Kosloff, and other members of the Imperial Russian ballet; Max and Moritz II., simians with semi-human intellect, musicians, cyclists, and comedians; Coram, ventriloquist; Carmen Turia, Spanish singer; Four Amaranths, dancers; Werd Bros., acrobats; Lea Manti, siffleuse; and pictures.

COLLINS'S MUSIC HALL.—Co-Proprietor, Mr. J. P. Mitchelhill.—This week (twice nightly): The Ten Loonies, mad musicians; Ernest H. Mills, lightning art humorist; Will Austa, comedian and dancer; Violet Vandelle, comedienne; Gerald Mount, in "Home Without a Mother"; Charles Coborn; Miss "O" and her Beau; Three Van Dammes, in a scena from "Happy Holland"; Keeley Bros., in a sporting goods store; Eight Rag-time Sisters; and pictures.

EAST HAM PALACE.—This week (twice nightly): Bransby Williams, in "One Man Revue"; the Louis Brocades; Fred Douglas; Will Norrie; Dare Austin, in comedy duologue, "His Wedding Morn"; Hillier and Dorothy; Herbert Rule; Flora Cromer, contralto entertainer; Sydney James; "Strolling Players"; and pictures.

EDMONTON EMPIRE.—M. D., Harry Bawn.—This week (twice nightly): Jordan and Harvey; Frank Hardie and company, in "Pedlar Sam"; Dekker, Kahn and company; Bi Bo Bi; Bains and company; and full company, etc.

EMPIRE, W.C.—M., Mr. Arthur Aldin.—Every evening, at 8 (doors, 7.45): "Everybody's Doing It!" up-to-the-minute revue, by George Grossmith and C. H. Bovill. The company includes; Ida Crispi, Unity More, Ivy St. Helier, Maud Jay, Fred Farren, Will Cromwell, Farren Soutar, Vernon Watson, and Robert Hale. Conrad and Whidden, instrumentalists and singers; De Caruso and Son; the Three Rascals; Mlle. Nearo, in a series of danse creations; Lydia Kyasht, in "The Reaper's Dream," a ballet idyll; and pictures.

EUSTON.—This week (twice nightly): George Gray and company, in "The People's King"; Alec Kennedy; George Ross; the Masques; Veronica Brady, with comedy songs; Bert Earle; Doris Hunter; Four Royal Scots; Harold Montague, in a pianologue; and pictures.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M., Mr. Horace Cole.—This week (twice nightly): Houdini; Kitty Colyer; Nixon Gray; Bi-ber-ti; Harry Grey; Bioscope; Friend and Downing; Olive Armidale; and Gisela and Rose.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): C. Aubrey Smith; Lilian Braithwaite and company, in "Instinct"; Coram; Panama Canal film, etc.

HIPPODROME.—Twice daily, at 2.30 and 8 p.m.: "Hullo, Rag-time!" a revue, written by Max Pemberton and Albert de Courville, music by Louis Hirsch. The company includes: Ethel Levey, Bonita, O. P. Heggie, Shirley Kellogg, Lew Hearn, and Cyril Clensy. Geo. L. Bickle and his comedy band; Ambrose Thorne; Jamieson Dodds; Jack Mason; Willie Solar; Gerald Kirby; Morris Harvey, etc., etc. Also Eretto Troupe, hand jugglers; Barat, balancer; Wheeler and Berkeley, the toff and the taxi; Salges's animated sculptures; and pictures.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver.—This week (twice nightly): Little Tich; Lucy Coventry; Laurette and Laurel; Sylvesta and Victoria; J. W. Rickaby; Joe Collins's company, in "Fun in a Dormitory"; Phil Parsons; May Erne and Chester; Norman and Leonard Trio; T. E. Dunville; Herbert Landeck and company presenting "Son of a Jew"; Mr. Charles Gulliver presents Paul J. Rainey's "African Hunt," marvellous moving pictures, daily at 3.

KILBURN EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Evie Greene; Harry Weldon; Daisy James; Arthur Watson and company; Illen Quin and dogs; Helena Frederick and company; Westwoods; Marjorie Stevens; Elsie Roby; Will Driscoll; and pictures.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.—P. and M., Mr. Clarence Sounes.—This week (twice nightly): A. C. Lilly and company, in "The Gentleman Ranker"; Tim O'Connor; Muriel Yorke; Yacob, performing orang-outang; Frank Le Dent; Four Rays; Alf. Chester; Donaldson Bros.; and Beth Tate.

LONDON OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. Ben Nathan.—This week (once nightly and matinées Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 2.30): "In the Library," by W. W. Jacobs, produced by Arthur Bourchier; the Four Merry Messenger Boys; the Joculars; the Excelsior Troupe of Acrobatic Cyclists; Piccad's company of pantomimists in "The Burglars of New York"; Niagara and Falls; and pictures.

LONDON PAVILION.—M., Mr. Frank Glenister.—This week: "Marked Money," by John J. O'Connor. Company includes: Robert Minster, Violet Lewis, and Leslie Carter. Also Beth Tate, the Californian girl; Mike S. Whallen, raconteur; Sam Stern, comedian; La Freya, artistic visions; "On the Pier," presented by Leslie Styles and company, including Kathleen Courtney and Lily Mills; Frank and Vesta, rag-time dancers; Frank Maura, equilibrist; Ben Albert, comedian, Louie Tracey, male impersonator; Camp and Critic, in "Waxworks"; Sig. Torti, Italian tenor; and Millie Doris, comedienne.

MASKELYNE AND DEVANT'S MYSTERIES, St. George's Hall, W.—Daily at 3 and 8: Mr. David Devant in "The Crystals," etc.; "A Fallen Idol," by F. Anstey; Hera, juggler; Mr. Stuart Debnam; Mr. Arthur Helmore, etc.

METROPOLITAN, W.—This week (twice nightly): Jessie Millward and company, in "The Gray of the Dawn"; Joe Peterman and company presents Jimmy Learmouth in "The Stationmaster"; Guest and Newlyn, conversationalists; Arthur Leslie, comedians; Lolita, in artistic visions; Kitty Colyer, comedienne; Harry Marlow, comedian; May Henderson, the Dusky Queen; and MacFayden, rag-timer.

NEW MIDDLESEX THEATRE.—P., The Middlesex Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; M., Mr. Harry Garnham; Mus. D., Mr. Amos Parker.—This week (twice nightly): "The Grip of Iron." The company includes: Phil Darien, Edwin Benentt, Bert C. Wynn, Ernest R. Hollway, Henri Dore, Arthur Byron, Brian Daly, Will Smith, J. O. Sutcliff, Charles Barnard, Frank Beavor, E. Rivarez, J. Williamson, Agnes Paulton, Sybil Etherington, and Gertrude T. Godart; Vera Wootton, comedienne; Olga, Elgar and Eli Hudson, musicians; Briff, Braff and Broff, comedy acrobats; and pictures. Next week: "The Indian Scout."

OXFORD.—M., Mr. Blyth-Platt.—Ernest C. Rolls' company in "Ragmania"; Bonny Browning; Bertha Foord; Sheila Hayes; May Audley; Eileen Van Biene; Ben Zellar; H. French; L. Phillips; Gerald Williams; A. Gordon; Leon Bassett; King and Benson, in comedy act; May Henderson, the Dusky Queen; Four Kasracs, in athletic act; Duncan and Godfrey, in cockney comedy; Captain Graham's Baboons; Syd Walker, comedian; Three Prestons, in "Moving the Village"; George Ross, the topsy-turvy pianist; Veronica Brady, comedienne; the Brothers Keeley, comic ball punchers; Jessie Berg, violinist; Achmed Ibraham Arabs, tumblers; and pictures. Saturday matinée, 2.15.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt.—Evenings at 8 (matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2): Edmund Payne, George Grossmith, and Mabel Sealby, in "Musical Comedy Reminiscences"; That Coloured Five, the Poinciana Quintette; a grand piano and Barclay Gammon; Lynch and Zeller, club jugglers; Frank Tinney, black-faced comedian, etc.

PALACE, TOTTENHAM.—This week (twice nightly): "The Mysterious Lady in Red"; Sisters Caselli, singers and dancers; Sados, novelty juggler; Albert Letine, female impersonator; Elsie Kerry, the Irish girl; Irene Millar, the graceful girl; E. D. Nicholls and company in "Jerry the Tramp"; the Five Cliftons in gymnastic and equilibristic act; Ernie Leno, dancer; and pictures.

PALLADIUM.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver.—This week (twice nightly): Wish Wynne, in character studies; last week of the illusionist, Goldin; Scott and Whaley; Queenie Essex; Jack Pleasants; Foreman and Fannan; the Four Ascots; Duncan's Royal Scotch Collies; Bert Coote and company, presenting "A Lamb on Wall Street"; Fred Emney, supported by Miss Sydney Fairbrother, in "A Sister to Assist 'Er." Matinées only, daily, at 2.30, Mr. Matheson Lang and company, including Miss Hutin Britton, in "Westward Ho!"

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Karno's "Hydro"; Panama Canal film; Hayman and Franklin; Ludwig Amann; Harry Champion, etc.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE.—This week (twice nightly): Arthur Lennard, comedian; Seven Perezoffs; Doris Hunter; Four Royal Scots; Vera Moore; Sinclair and Whiteford; Harry Wenburn; the New Macs, comedians; James Willard, in "The Devil's Box of Bricks"; and pictures.

TIVOLI.—M., Mr. Joseph Wilson.—This week (once nightly): Bransby Williams, in "A Review of Revues"; "The Lodgers," by Charles Hannan, the cast including Jean Turnbull, supported by Harriet Woods, Lallie Forsyth, and Willie Black; Bertram Wallis's Musketeers, including Bertram Wallis and Herbert Clayton, also Frederic Norton, Allan Dale, and Nelson Keys; Hedges Bros. and Jacobson, rag-time entertainers; Radford and Valentine, juggling jesters; Harold Montague, humorous pianologues; Clifford Morgan, in Kipling's songs; Jeanette Dupre, in songs, etc.; Little Pam, big boot dancer; Evelyn Tyser, violiniste; Devon and Earle, dancers; Ross and Lewis, Yankee Doodle duo; Morny Cash, Lancashire lad; and pictures. Saturday, matinée, 2.15.

VICTORIA PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt.—This week (twice nightly): Wee Georgie Wood, "Baby in India"; Earle Reynolds and Nellie Donghan, skating dancers; Isabel D'Armond and Frank Carter, comedy duo; Ed. E. Ford; Irene Penso; John Weil; Cosgrove and Burns; Rebla, juggler; Elida Morris, comedienne; John Tiller's Twelve Mascots; Daisy Taylor, Scotch comedienne; and pictures.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.—This week (twice nightly): E. D. Nicholls and company, in "Jerry, the Tramp"; King and Benson, versatile couple; F. V. St. Clair; Ted Gill; Lily Long; Nino and Nana; Ed. E. Ford; Irene Millar; Carrie Laurie's Juveniles; Lievin and Pantzer, in "A Lesson in Physical Culture"; and pictures.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.—This week (twice nightly): Vesta Tilley; Panama Canal film; Molly Wells; Lorna and Toots Pounds, etc.

ABERAVON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. Dd. Jones; Mus. D., Mr. James Batt.—This week: Fielding and Hull, in singing act; Pickard and West, in comedy pot pourri; Stuart and Evans, comedians; and pictures.

VINT'S PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. Wm. Mitchell; Mus. D., Mr. Jules Frascati.—This week: The Zancigs, "two minds with but a single thought"; Bird, Walsh, and Holt, in farce, "A Lightning Rehearsal"; and pictures.

TAIBACH PICTURE PALACE.—P., W. Davies and Co.; M., Mr. W. Davies; Mus. D., Mr. C. Stonier Kaye.—This week: Baby Beatrice, juvenile comedienne; and pictures.

ABERDEEN.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., the Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson; Mus. D., Mr. A. W. Loseby.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Alfred Denville presents "The Miracle." The company includes: Mr. Clif

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; R. M., Mr. Fred W. Green. This week: Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood's company in "Allah's Orchard." The company includes: Messrs. Arthur Hinton, Herbert Evelyn, Frank McCellan, Arthur Keand, Fred Anton, Leonard Gardiner, Mark Adams, Misses Ethel Monson, Pauline Haydon, Annette Howard, Maimie West, Bertie Wells, Kitty Thornton, Rose Kocher, Norma Craig, Violet Hebditch, Dolly Wall, F. Smith, Molly Beeston, Maisie Bell, Isa Clark, Esmé Gorton, Nellie Davis, May Day, Jean Marsden, and Florence Zillwood. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

NEW HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson.—This week: Dandy George, in animal act; Kitty Beresford, comedienne; Pat Trevor and Ethel Ware, comedy duo; Fred Dunstone, comedian; Gerbola Trio, comedy acrobats; George and Olgar, entertainers; Royburn and Dix, speciality artistes; Takase, Japanese magician; and pictures.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; M., Mr. Harold Wilson.—This week: Mr. George Thornton's orchestra, pictures, and selections on the gramophone.

QUEEN'S HALL.—A. M., Mr. Havelock Bowker.—This week: Chas. Clifford, tenor vocalist; and pictures.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Clarence Sounes; G. M., Mr. Jack Gladwin; A. M., Mr. Percy Barrow.—This week: Mr. Louis Meyer's company in "The Glad Eye." The company includes: Misses Phyliss Stuckey, Monica Marshall, Lilian Christine, and Mona Meyer; and Messrs. Lawrence Robins, Alfred Drayton, Frank Bradley, R. S. Entwistle, Leslie Kyle, F. W. Pedgrift, Stanley Groome, H. W. Hewlett, and H. Conyers. "The Glad Eye" is preceded each evening by "Tatlers," produced by Louis Rihll. Next week: "The Ruined Life."

HIPPODROME.—P. and M., Mr. Clarence Sounes.—This week: D'Vorak Family, acrobats; Spessell Bros. and Mack, American eccentrics; Two Brilliants, the last word in xylophones; Eight Lancashire Lads, in singing and dancing act; Sisters Geretti, double trapeze actors; Dennis and Morris, comedians and dancers; Haidee de Rance, vocalist and violinist; and Ivy Aberdare, in song and dance.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

CASTLE PICTURE PALACE.—P., Mr. J. T. Castle; G. M., Mr. John Hy. Downs; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Palmer.—This week (twice nightly): Mascot, educated horse; Carmen Hand, comedienne; Dexter, lightning artist; and pictures.

ARBROATH.

PALACE THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Arthur Dean; Assist. M., Mr. A. Melvin.—This week: Edward H. Lucas and daughter Edna, scenes from Dickens; Ivy Lea, the 'cello girl, in vocal and musical speciality; Frank Early, character comedian; and pictures.

OLYMPIA.—M., Mr. Graham Brown.—This week: Maud and Gill, in comedy Gymnastic act; Arthur Herbert, musician; Florrie Cooper, contralto singer; and pictures.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Charles Revill, jun.; Mus.D., Mr. W. H. Halton.—This week (once nightly): Miss Isa Bowman presents "The Girl in the Picture." The company includes: Frank Barclay, Bert Beswick, Gregory Scott, Besley Beltran, Tom Squire, Arnold Dean, Vera Davis, Kitty Kirwan, Peggy Phyl, Lilian Grey, Dolly Weaver, Kitty Sineco, Wynne Bronte, Nora Hardt, Gertrude Davies, Bessie Compton, Dora Graeves, Mora Mabelle, Henry Hyne, Lance Stafford, Hubert Godfrey, Claude Farrow, Jack Callan, Isa Bowman. T. M., Mr. Frank Barclay. Next week: "Hindle Wakes."

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. John Boyle; Asst. M., Mr. Jesse Burslem; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Heck.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. J. A. Campbell presents "The Queen Mother." The company includes: Richard Bosco, Herbert Mansfield, Frank Strickland, Wm. Lenton, Wm. Greene, Arthur Denton, Eric Morden, Douglas Tremayne, Wilton Reed, John Rimmer, Frank Beresford, Ruth Zillwood, Laurie Potter, Lina Nazeby Etter Arnold, Mary Fulton.

PICTURE PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Arthur Downes; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Coleman.—This week (twice nightly): Lewis' Mannikins; and pictures. Matinées on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, 2.30.

BACUP.

PUBLIC HALL. — L., Messrs Glenville and Osmond; M., Mr. J. H. Clay.—This week: Mr. Ernest Hargreaves, tenor vocalist; and pictures.

OLYMPIA PICTUREDROME, STACKSTEADS.—L., Messrs. Cook and Co.; M., Mr. J. H. Pollard.—This week: The Six Lodores, comedy and dancing act; Bock Pylades, character impersonator; George Ingham, vocalist; and pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

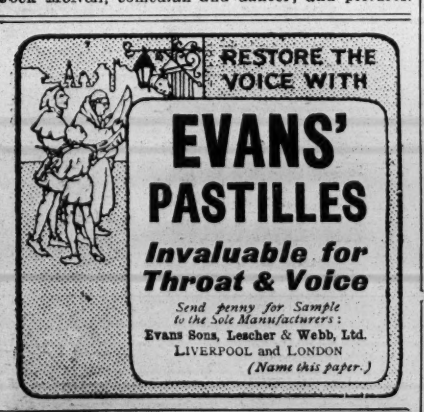
ROYALTY THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; R. M., Mr. George Stone.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Herbert Ralland presents (by arrangement with Mr. George Edwardes) "The Girl in the Train." The company includes: Mr. Bay Russell, Mr. Percy Watson, Mr. F. W. Bowes, Mr. C. F. Cooke, Mr. Stafford Dickens, Mr. Griffin Campion, Mr. Cecil Moylan, Mr. Philip Cooper, Miss Rosa Burchell, Miss Winnie Hall, Miss Dagmar Dargue, Miss Ethel Oliver. T. M., Mr. Bay Russell. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Silver King."

TIVOLI.—L. & M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Emilius Hill; Mus.D., Mr. T. H. Hulley.—This week (twice nightly): Dave Samuels, Hebrew comedian; Lane and O'Donnel, comedy acrobats; Dolly Brooke, comedienne and dancer; Lace and Leno, dancers; Halma, crazy juggler; Rosie Archer, at the piano; Randolph Sutton, comedian; Mazuz and Mazette, in comedy act.

BARRY DOCK.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Tours, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Arthur Carlton; M., Mr. T. E. Maddox.—This week: Illustrated songs and pictures.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. H. Samson.—This week: Dora Hilstrom and Players; Harry Morris, "The One-Man Bugle Band"; Jock McNeil, comedian and dancer; and pictures.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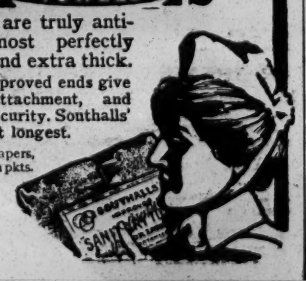

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Closed this week. Reopen on Monday with Mr. George Dance's company in "The Quaker Girl."

PALACE THEATRE.—L., Mr. W. S. Pearce; M., Mr. Leslie Fairfax.—This week (twice nightly): Schwarz and company, in "The Broken Mirror"; Kitty Prince, comedienne and dancer; Neuman and Royle, ventriloquists; Waldo and Wade, in comedy act; Billy Simpson, character comedian; John Nemo, speciality artiste; Anna Dorothy, comedienne; and pictures.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Charles Draycott; M. D., Mr. James Heggie.—This week: 3 Bollingers, in comedy novelty; Butt and Ward, harmonising duettists; Billy Elliott, pantomime favourite; Les Cerretas, in Ragtime, Dutch, and Russian whirlwind dancing; Brozen and Winston, comedy act; and pictures.

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; A. M., Mr. James M. McCann.—Messrs. F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's Company opened here on Monday in the musical comedy, "Miss Hook of Holland." In the rôle of Mr. Hook, Mr. Fred J. Little must be congratulated on his undoubted success. He sustained the part in capital style, and his humour, which was unexaggerated, created laughter loud and long. In the title-rôle, Miss Dorothy Temple furnished a charming performance. her acting and sing winning all hearts. Miss Helene Moore is also worthy of special mention for her vivacious and pleasing interpretation of Mina, the maid; and Miss Kathleen Goslett was attractive and clever as Gretchen. Mr. George F. Ide furnished a dashing and accomplished impersonation of Captain Adrian Paap; and a diverting impersonation of Simon Slinks was given by Mr. John Gerant. In the rôle of Bandmaster Van Vuyt, Mr. Sen Holloway sang some items admirably, and in the part of Ludwig Schnapps Mr. Oliver Comber scored heavily. Other rôles were adequately sustained by Miss Dorothy Maude, Miss Peggy Lehay, Miss May Moffat, and Messrs. James Davis, A. W. Bartlett, A. Budd, &c. The augmented orchestra was under the able direction of Mr. T. B. Boatwright. Next week: "A Scrape o' the Pen."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Warden, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden.—Mr. and Mrs. H. Lyndon's Company opened here on Monday with "The Pet of the Ranch," by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley. The rôle of Philip Trelyan was sustained with undeniable skill by Mr. Algernon J. Hicks, and the title-rôle (Zelda, the pet of the ranch) was cleverly interpreted by the accomplished actress, Miss Iza Lyndon. The heavy rôle of Mexican Joe was luridly portrayed by Mr. Stephen Langton, and congratulations are due Miss Edie Macklin for her fine acting in the dual rôle of Margaret and Mineor. Mr. Edgar Morgan was admirable as Ben Bates, and Miss Grace Jones realistically enacted Kate Trelyan. Miss Marjorie Seymour vivaciously portrayed Whirlwind Meggie, and the rôle of Robert Gray was in the safe hands of Mr. Charles D. Pitt. Other parts were satisfactorily sustained by Mr. Harry Lyndon, Master Harold Bell, Mr. Frank Guest, &c. Next week: "The Slave Girl."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — P., Alexandra Theatre Co., Ltd.; R. M. D., Mr. J. Leicester Jackson.—At this popular theatre (so ably managed by Mr. J. Leicester Jackson) we are this week favoured with a visit from Miss Lena Stanton and Mr. Harry Joseph's pantomine, "Cinderella." The cast is a capable one, and includes Miss Lena Stanton, who gains a gratifying success as Prince Charming, her songs being encored to the echo nightly. Miss Kitty Kennedy Allen was a sweet and dainty Cinderella, and deservedly shared the honours with Miss Stanton. Little Keeno, as Buttons, the Baron's page, created roars of laughter with his funny antics, and Mr. Harry Joseph, a clever comedian, assisted materially with his droll conception of Myrtle, one of the Baron's ugly daughters. Mr. T. Owen Hunter appears as Baron Bustrip, and Miss Marjorie Fraser was a dashing and accomplished Dandini. Messrs. Jack Hayman and Joe Houtem appear as Copem and Stopem, and do not fail to please, and other rôles are sustained by Miss Lena Joseph, Miss E. Doran, the Sisters Delhi, &c. Specialities are introduced during the pantomime by the clever Leola Troupe of lady acrobatic dancers (including Babs, the marvellous child bender), the Sisters Delhi, duettists and dancers; Hayman and Houtem, patterers and expert dancers; Vic Verney, novelty whistler and mimic; and Little Keeno, comedian and dancer. The augmented orchestra was under the skilful direction of Mr. Arthur Meredyth.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Wilmot; R. M., Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here is Miss Gertie Gitana, comedienne, who is paying a return visit, and who has again achieved a veritable triumph with her rendering of several chorus songs. Solo, pantomimist, returns with his lesson in temperance, "Too full for words," which finds universal favour, and a hit has been made by Stuart Cleveland and Company in "A Policeman and a Man." The Whittakers appear in their "Dick Whittington" burlesque, and also billed are: the Gillettes; George Leaver, comedian; Four Julians, comedy flying gymnasts; Lily Lister, comedienne and mimic; Gus Harris, Hebrew comedian; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The chief feature here is provided by the Trippellos Quartette, whose brilliant musical speciality has been voted a huge success. A feature of the bill is the comedy sketch, "The Wrong Address," presented by Murray and May; Marice and Marice, operatic and comedy duettists; Field and Mansell, lightning art painters and eccentric jugglers; Cissie Burnett, comedienne and dancer; George Jessop, baritone; and the Bioscope are also included in the programme.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Will White.—The vaudeville element is sustained here by the Juggling Folettes in their comedy act, and Mr. W. P. Dempsey in chorus songs. Pictures complete.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. Herbert Rogers. — This week: Charles Dane and May Daley, musical comedy duo, and pictures.

NEW PRINCESS THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Ferris Pounds.—This week: Mr. Bert Rose, dashing chorus singer, and pictures.

BILSTON.

HIPPODROME AND PICTURE HOUSE.—R. M., Mr. E. Du Rocher; P., Mr. E. C. Jazon.—This week: Mr. W. V. Garrod presents "The Sledge Hammer." The company includes: Messrs. Maxwell Davidson, Robert Gilbert, C. Caldelengh, Chas. Halling, Frank Dallas, J. B. Murray, Miss Mabel Durham, Miss Jessie Yateman, and Miss Maud Merrick.

WOOD'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Thomas R. Wood.—This week: Alexandre Ruvalle presents a series of dramatic recitals; Albert Bell, entertainer and operatic vocalist.

BIRKENHEAD.

ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert M. King.—This week (once nightly): Moody-Manners Opera Company present on Monday, "Carmen"; Tuesday, "Lily of Killarney"; Wednesday, "Tannhäuser"; Thursday matinée (2.30), "Daughter of the Regiment"; Thursday (evening), "Maritana"; Friday, "Romeo and Juliet"; and Saturday, "The Bohemian Girl." The company includes: Mr. Albert Bowyer, Mr. Flintoff Moore, Mr. F. Davies, Mr. Minnette, Mr. William Anderson, Miss Olive Westwood, Miss D. McCarthy, Miss Raymonde Amy, &c. M. D., Mr. Charles Manners. T. M., Mr. J. MacCabe. Next week: "The Count of Luxembourg."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; D. of Entertainments, Mr. E. Dottridge; R. M., Mr. Frank Weston. — This week (twice nightly): T. Edward Ward's company, in "A Lad's Love." T. M., Mr. Percy Shaw. The company includes: Mr. Henry Hallatt, Mr. Alec Wilson-Wynne, Mr. John Blake, Mr. H. Kenneth Barton, Mr. Percy Shaw, Mr. Percy Godfrey, Mr. F. Thorpe-Tracey, Mr. George Walkley, Mr. Frederick Barrett, Mr. George S. Blount, Mr. Roland Ivan, Miss Elly O. Dempster, Miss Violette May, Miss Lillian Lovell, Miss Emmie Barton, and Miss Lilian Earle.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke.—This week (twice nightly): Happy Fanny Fields; Andy McLeod, comedian and raconteur; Three Vims; Bros. Leo, comedians; Tom Stuart, comedian; Silbon's Cats; Elly Adair, comedian and dancer; McConnell Trio, sketch artistes; the Dayton Family, acrobats; pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Tom B. Davis; G. M., Mr. Philip Rodway; Asst. M., Mr. F. Smith. —"Goody Two-Shoes" closes down this week, after a most successful run. Mr. Philip Rodway took his benefit last week, and Mr. George Robey had his benefit on Friday.

PRINCE OF WALES.—P., Prince of Wales' Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart; A. M., Mr. Henry Johnston.—That old favourite, "The Silver King," is being played here to capital houses by G. M. Polini and Austen Melford's company. Mr. Arthur H. Brooke is very good as the Silver King, and Miss Roberta Pulleyne gives an interesting study of the loyal wife. Little Dalby Douglas portrays the part of the child in capable manner, and the other characters are very well rendered.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—P., Mr. Leon Salberg; A. M., Mr. W. T. Guest.—"Robinson Crusoe" shows no signs of abating interest. No "last performance" has been announced, and three matinées are still given each week. Both the manager, Mr. W. T. Guest, and the producer, Mr. H. Barnes, are to have a benefit.

REPERTORY THEATRE.—P., The Birmingham Repertory Theatre, Ltd.; D., Mr. Barry V. Jackson; G. M., Mr. John Drinkwater. — Following on their successful début last week, the Repertory Theatre players have again displayed their wonderful versatility in their production of Mr. John Galsworthy's clever play, "The Pigeon," preceded by the Wooing scene from "Richard III." Mr. Frank Moore supplied a telling and powerful reading of the Duke of Gloucester, and was ably supported by Miss Margaret Chatwin in the part of Lady Anne. "The Pigeon" appeared to suit the taste of the audience, for the piece was received with much laughter and applause. Mr. Ivor Barnard played Christopher Wellwyn with a keen appreciation of the requirements of the character, and lent sympathy to the kind-hearted but foolish individual who is dubbed the Pigeon by those who systematically sponge upon him. His daughter Ann was adequately portrayed by the charming and graceful Miss Cecily Byrne. Mr. John Darnley, in the part of Ferrand, was a clever character study. Miss Cathleen Orford was completely successful as Guinevere Megan, a flower-seller, and claimed the strong sympathy of the audience. Rory Megan, her husband, had an able exponent in Mr. Ivan Firth. Mr. Claude Graham was Timson, the drunken old cabman, to the life. Mr. Ribton Haines gave a touch of satire to his portrayal of Edward Bertley, a Canon, that was truly delightful. Mr. E. Stuart Vinden, as the Professor Alfred Calway, was a careful and creditable piece of work. Sir Thomas Hoxton, a J.P. of the old type, was done full justice by Mr. Scott Sunderland; and Mr. Felix Aylmer was excellent as a police constable. Next week, "Candida," is to be staged with Miss Madge McIntosh in the name part.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L., Mr. T. Morton Powell; A. M., Mr. H. E. Cox.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company, in "The Midnight Wedding," is making a strong appeal to large audiences. Mr. Alfred Paumier is a capital hero, and Miss Annie Saker makes a charming princess. Mr. Adear Lovett is very good in the heavy lead.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. Charles Barnard; M., Mr. Lewis Chapman.—There is plenty of excitement in "The Wild Girl of the Forest," presented here this week, and the large audiences are following with interest the adventures of the Prince, who successfully disposes of his enemy, Captain Ricardo, and marries Maritza, the wild girl of the forest. Mr. John A. Riley is a manly Prince, and an excellent study of Maritza is given by Miss Nana Fleesburg. The company is a good one, and the play is well staged.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. W. H. Bebby; Asst. M., Mr. P. Whitton.—Owen Moran, the feather-weight champion boxer, is giving an interesting series of boxing exhibitions; a play with a strong sentimental appeal is seen in "The Heart of a Child," presented by Messrs. Walter Sumner's company; Miss Artie Hall sings rag-time in interesting fashion; the Roland Brothers give a neat exhibition of strength; Bert Terrell is a Dutch comedian with an original style; Rich Taylor is an amusing ventriloquist; Will Hay is very funny as the "schoolmaster" comedian; and Kathi Gultini gives a smart juggling performance.

GRAND.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Gordon E. Craig; Asst. M., Mr. H. F. Coward.—An interesting production is seen in the rag-time revue, which shows in song and dance, aided by brilliant spectacular effects, the successive stages of the syncopated melodies of the cotton plantation to the crazy jingle of to-day; Green and Wood are very clever humpsti-bumpsti acrobats; James Stewart is very amusing as the tramp at the piano; Arthur Sutcliffe is a versatile light comedian; Cecil Lyle is a clever and original conjurer; and Olive Tempest and Rosie Reys are good comediennes.

HIPPODROME.—P., New Hippodrome (Birmingham), Ltd.; M., Mr. Ben de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. Hamilton.—Nellie Wallace is a capital fun-maker, and gives a most amusing burlesque of a pantomime principal boy; the Texas Tommy Dancers give an interesting exhibition of ragtime dancing; the Rangers are clever trick cyclists; Capt. Jack Kelly is a smart manipulator of the stock whips; Arthur Croxon is a refined entertainer; Felix and Fisher present a clever gymnastic act; Jimmy Pullin is an entertaining patter comedian; Tim Carlisle is very merry as the college comedian; and Baby Watson is most amusing in "Baby's Night Out."

GAIETY.—L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Walter Bellian.—Fred Dyer is proving very popular here with his vocalism, opera burlesque, and boxing exhibitions; a varied and interesting musical performance is given by the Six Donovans; the Maningos are skilful equilibrists; Jennie Reeve is a smart "boy"; the Three Veros sing and dance well; Billy Curzon is an amusing dame comedian; the Recar Trio are clever acrobatic dancers; and J. W. Lambton has two amusing songs.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—P., Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; D. of Entertainments, Mr. S. T. Newsome; A. M., Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Mrs. Graeme Goring and company prove very diverting in their suffragette skit, "The Heid o' th' Hoose"; Fanny and Harry Dent are an amusing comedy duo; Sunshine and Shadow are clever comedy acrobats; the Four Powers give an excellent musical entertainment; Nellie Bly is a smart dancer; an amusing comedian is seen in Leo Bliss; and Miss Le Breton is an expert gymnast.

NEW PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; A. M., Mr. Geo. Anthony.—Charles Elstree, entertainer at the piano; Bros. Velmax, equilibrists; Meg and Jock, juvenile duo; and pictures.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.

EDEN THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Chas. Elderton; R. M., Mr. F. Steels.—This week: Mr. Elderton's pantomime, "Aladdin."

HIPPODROME.—L., Messrs. the Standard Electric Theatre, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank W. Ogden Smith; R. M., Mr. H. Warren.—This week: Variety and pictures.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Closed for rebuilding of stage.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Page; A. M., Mr. John Eraser; Asst. M., Mr. Albert Hargreaves; Mus. D., Mr. W. Haydock.—This week: Mr. E. Hill Mitchelson's, jun., company in "A Queen for a Wife." Cast includes: Messrs. E. Hill Mitchelson, jun., Ernest Fosbrooke, Warwick Wellington, Michael Staples, Arthur Robinson, W. H. Garbois, Henry Armitage, Tom J. Taylor, Edward Cramon, W. Carpenter, H. Toms, Misses Florence French, Rosie Russell, Mrs. Bennett, and Alice Belmore.

PALACE.—P. & M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Arthur Burton.—This week: Rinaldo, the wandering violinist; May Poulton, vocal comedienne; Tennyson and Wallis, comedians; the Jackson Family of trick cyclists; the Fitzroys, society gymnasts; Besoni, ventriloquist; Haydee's Miniature Vaudeville Theatre; and pictures.

STAR.—M. D., Messrs. Strong and Taylor.—This week: Pictures; Jack Hartley, Lancashire comedian; and Jack Barnes, vocalist.

ALEXANDRA HALL.—L., The Dowry Co.—This week: Pictures; the Nicolsons, comedy duo; and Frank Whitley, nigger comedian.

VICTORIA HALL.—P. & M., Mr. John Charnley.—This week: Pictures; and Walter Clifford.

CENTRAL HALL.—P. & M., Mr. John Bradley.—This week: Pictures; and the Little Star Dandies, eccentric dancers.

OLYMPIA THEATRE. — M., Mr. Reginald Yorke.—This week: Pictures; V. M. Kisielowski, pictures.

EXCHANGE HALL.—L., Messrs. Riding, Hardcastle, and J. G. Rawlinson; G. M., Mr. J. G. Rawlinson; A. M., Mr. J. Kerrigan.—This week: Pictures; and Maud Hughes, soprano vocalist.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone.—This week (once nightly): Alexander Marsh and company. Monday, "A Tale of Two Cities"; Tuesday, "The Merchant of Venice"; Wednesday, "David Garrick" and "The Sleigh Bells"; Thursday, "The Bishop's Candlesticks"; and "The Taming of the Shrew"; Friday, "A Midsummer Night's Dream"; Saturday matinée (2), "As You Like It"; and Saturday evening, "The Three Musketeers." The company includes: Mr. Alexander Marsh, Mr. Wilson Gunning, Mr. Ian Fleming, Mr. Edwin Beverley, Mr. J. William Mollison, Mr. Henry Oscar, Mr. W. Edward Stirling, Mr. Edmund Tennant, Mr. F. J. Fay, Mr. Vickers Smith, Mr. Leonard Trollope, Mr. A. G. Fenn, Mr. Oswald Dobson, Mr. Chowey Thorne, Mr. Malcolm Watson, Miss Kate Barry, Miss Sheila Ross, Miss Freda Fay, Miss Margaret Vaughan, Miss Hilary Sturdy, Miss Agnes Gagan, Miss Dora Mason, Miss May Grimshaw, Miss Carrie Baillie. T. M., Mr. Albert Cavanah. Next week: "Miss Hook of Holland."

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; A.M., Mr. F. Waller.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2.30): Wilkie Bard; Daisy Stratton, comedienne; Henry Helme, singer; Three Cunards, dancers; Arthur Leary, equilibrist; the Two Anartos, comedians; and pictures.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. John Moncur.—This week (once nightly, and Wednesday matinée, 2.30): H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh present "The Barrier." Cast includes: Stanley Bedwell, Richard Hicks, Arthur Leigh, C. C. Grattan, Charles Barrett, Louis Hector, Harry Morgan, Arles Conway, Jessie Belmore, and Florence Tressilian. Next week: "The Shaughraun."

GRAND.—P., Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. Alf Booth.—This week (twice nightly; Monday, matinée, 2.30): Gerald Griffin, in "Other People's Money"; Baby Wolfe, comedienne; Alex Lawson, equilibrist; Frank Lauri, comedian; the Three Laurels, acrobats; Torino, juggler; Three Sisters Eston, in trapeze act; Frank E. Melville, comedian; and Jan Rudenyi, violinist.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Arthur R. Harrison.—This week (twice nightly; Monday, matinée, 2.30): Messrs. Sidney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter present "Jane." Cast includes: Mr. Gerald Venning, Mr. T. Lionel Ellis, Mr. Charles Usher, Master Percy Dyer, Mr. Sebastian Smith, Miss Jenny Lynn, Miss Ruby Hallier, Miss Miriam March, and Miss Jeannie Holmes.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—This week (once nightly): Miss Hilda Trevelyan and Mr. Edmund Gwenn's company present "Little Miss Llewelyn." The company includes: Mr. Sydney Evans, Mr. Arthur Edgar, Mr. Hugh Robinson, Mr. Harding Thomas, Mr. Edward Jones, Mr. Gareth Hughes, Mr. Owen Pryce, Mr. Jeffrey Hopkins, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Miss Louie Williams, Miss Rachel Jones, Miss Eleanor Daniels, Miss Evelyn Evans. Preceded by "A Girl in Every Port." T. M., Mr. Sidney Palfrey. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.45. Next week: Farewell visit of Forbes-Robertson and Gertrude Elliott.

WINTER GARDENS.—This week: The Municipal Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Dan Godfrey, Hon. R.A.M. Monday, Thursday, and Friday, at 3 and 8; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at 8. Each evening, Miss Lena Hutchings, soprano; Harry Ivimey; songs at the piano; and cinematograph exhibition. Tuesday, at 3 Dickens recital on Nicholas Nickleby, by the Rev. A. R. Runnels-Moss, M.A. Wednesday, at 3, Wladimir Gernikoff, Russian pianist, assisted by Darrell Fancourt, bass. Saturday, at 3, farewell appearance of Johannes Wolff, violinist, assisted by Alys Bateman, English prima donna; Eva Robinson, contralto; Harold Wilde, tenor; and Parlovitz, pianist.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. John Hart; M., Mr. J. Richardson.—On Saturday night last the curtain fell for the last time on "The House that Jack Built," and no greater proof of its popularity could have been desired than the demonstrations which greeted the whole performance. The principals were cheered very heartily, and in the customary manner the audience joined in the songs, the "farewells" and expressions of good will being fervent and sincere. On Monday night great interest centered in the return visit of the popular actor Mr. Martin Harvey, who presented the translation from the Spanish of Angel Guimera by Wallace Gillpatrick and Guido Marburg, viz., "The Lowland Wolf," and as the shepherd Manelich, Mr. Harvey's histrionic gifts had fine scope; Miss N. De Silva in a powerful and intensely passionate impersonation of the peasant girl, Marta, supporting him splendidly; and amongst other noticeable efforts were the Nuri of Miss Annie Furrell, the three peasant women played by the Misses Hunt, Gibson, and Elder; the villainous Sebastian of Mr. Dyall; the Morrucho of Mr. Cameron; the Tomas of Mr. George Cooke; and the Mosen of Mr. Raynor. The Mill scene, where the action takes place, is very fine. There is some strikingly appropriate music, and a fine tableau introduced into the play, which was splendidly received. The marvellous production, "Œdipus Rex," is billed for representation during the stay of Mr. Harvey, who is also to appear as Lieut. Keresby (the Rat) in "The Breed of the Treshams."

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — L., Mr. Francis Laidler; G. M., Mr. N. Hepworth; A. M., Mr. F. Yearsley.—Miss Florrie Forde's pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," still holds the boards here, the success attending this twice-nightly production having far exceeded anticipations.

THE EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Percival Craig.—Mr. Graham Moffat's delightful little domestic comedy "The Concealed Bed," is being played here this week by a capital company, and the humour of the sketch proves quite irresistible. Princess D'Aryaba in a classical dancing scena is charming and striking; and La Zabra as Cupid shares liberally in the honours; Tucker is funny and clever and original in his singing, dancing, and rag-time violin playing; Nan C. Hearne, who has won recent laurels in pantomime at the Royal here, contributes some capital songs in her well-known style; Jack Thomas is a very funny comedian, and there are also other contributors of merit in the comedy line, viz., Iké and Will Scott, Jack Roscoe, and the Miller Bros., comic acrobats.

THE PALACE. — L., Mr. F. Macnaghten; M., Mr. Will A. Jackson.—H. J. Corner and Leo Ward's company this week present here, with much success, an exciting and cleverly-constructed sketch, viz., "1,000 to 1 Against," and in the character of Dick Rutherford, the cracksman, Mr. Leonard Robson is capably supported. The Child Trio of Juvenile Instrumentalists display on violin 'cello, and piano, executive skill which is really remarkable; Lytton and De Silva are accomplished operatic and ballad vocalists; Frank and Beryl Harmer are prominent as a clever vocal comedy duo; the Bros. Bernhardt are a pair of capital comedians; on the trapeze the Donnas Trio do some clever gymnastic and balancing feats; Mr. and Mrs. Manning are good in a well-acted comedy duologue, "Our Wedding Anniversary"; remarkable feats of strength by the Holland Bros. are a feature of the good entertainment, which concludes with the pictures.

BRIERLEY HILL.

QUEEN'S HALL.—P., Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. C. Cooper.—This week: The Warrington Trio of equilibrists; Jack Judge, comedian; and comedian; and the Comedy Trio.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Brighton Theatre Royal, Ltd.; M., Mr. Lewson Lambert.—Mr. Cyril Maude's company is delighting large audiences here with "Bunty Pulls the Strings." Miss Evelyn Ormonde gives a charming impersonation of Bunty; Mr. Edward Lynton is distinctly successful with his clever enactment of Rab; Mr. Lowe Mackenzie is admirable as the sanctimonious Tammas Biggar; Mr. Colin M. Johnston is entertaining as Weelum Sprunt; Miss Madge Ross submits a good character study as Susie Simpson; Miss Stella Campbell makes a pleasing Teenie; Mrs. Arthur Yates' Eelen Dunlop, Mr. A. P. Roxburgh's Jeemes Gibb, and Mr. James Duncan's Dan Birrell are well played.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M. D., Mr. Ernest Gates; G. M., Mr. Ben Court. — "His Indian Wife" is here. Mr. Leonard Williams and Miss May Grayce are especially effective in the strongly dramatic scene in the third act; Miss Irene Atchison as Wild Rose is admirably suited; Mr. Tod Squires makes a diverting Billy Twiggle; Mr. Gerald Byrne is distinctly effective as White Eagle, whose brother has an excellent exponent in Mr. Harry Harrald. The play is finely staged and mounted.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. W. A. Boardman.—John Tiller's spectacular ballet, "Lovely Lucerne," proves very attractive here this week. Mr. James Rous (Patrick O'Flynn), Miss May Blossom (Mrs. O'Flynn), Miss Doris Cook (Norah), Mr. Edward Jaye (Peter Muggs), Mr. J. J. Dallas (Marmaduke Montgomery), Mr. Leslie Cliff (Viscount Highlow), and Miss Elizabeth Wieland (Pimpernell) are especially successful in their impersonations, and the dances are warmly appreciated.

WEST PIER THEATRE.—S., Mr. A. W. Scholey. —"Looking for Trouble" occupies the boards here. Mr. William MacIntosh Clyde is delightfully entertaining as Angus McPherson; Miss Verita Vivien makes a vivacious Kate Bellingham; Mr. Hugh Webb achieves much success as Pierpoint Porches; Mr. Dick Webb's Capt. Frank Porches is well played; and praise is also due to Miss Charity Wynne, Miss Dorothy Bowden, and Mr. Bertram Burleigh.

PALACE PIER THEATRE. — M., Mr. Gilbert Laye.—Mr. Millar Anderson is presenting "Joseph Entangled" and "The Liars" here this week. In the former, Miss Mabel Mannering as Lady Verona Mayne and Mr. James Harcourt as Sir Joseph Lacy are especially prominent with their artistic impersonations; Mr. Alfred Brandon is effective as Harold Mayne; Mr. L. Parsons is an admirable Professor Tofield; and able support is rendered by Mr. Alfred Wiltshire, Mr. J. D. Geddes, Miss Alice Esden, and Miss Doris Lairee.

COURT.—P., Brighton Court Theatre, Ltd.; M. D., Mrs. M. Barrasford.—This week (twice nightly, matinée, Thursday, 2.30): Florence Creach and Dick Cruickshanks in "Her Return"; Geo. Gilder, comedian; Miss Josie Burnella, comedienne; and pictures.

DOME.—On Wednesday evening the Brighton Municipal Orchestra and Chorus, under the direction of Mr. Lyell-Tayler, and assisted by Mme

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; M., Mr. Arthur Collingwood.—This week: Mr. Richard Nightingale's pantomime "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Dolly Ross, Miss Gladys Henderson, Mr. Jimmy Goode, Mr. Bob Stevens, Mr. Billy Fandet, Tew and Lea, Barbendo, Mr. Fred Preston, Miss Susie Marne, Miss May Beaumont, Miss Frances Henderson, Miss Ruth Beaumont, Miss Lillian Devon, Miss Nellie Mascot; specialities by Sisters Henderson, Sisters Beaumont, Barbendo, Tew and Lea, the Dancing Durhams. Chorus and orchestra under the direction of Mr. Hal E. Parker.

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Robert Courtneidge presents "The Arcadians." The company includes: Mr. Dan Agar, Mr. George Hestor, Mr. H. Nelson Hancock, Mr. R. Gascoyne, Mr. Thomas A. Braidon, Mr. Reginald Harcourt, Mr. J. Jolly, Mr. W. Ryce, Miss Patricia Musgrave, Miss Maudie Ray, Mr. Hamilton Ryan, Mr. Robert Montgomery, Mr. Ivan Leslie, Miss Nellie Taylor, Miss Nellie Kavanagh, Miss Cecil O'Shea, Miss Ethel Kainforth, Miss Marjorie Vallis, Miss Hazel Alexander, Miss Edith Drayson, Miss Renee Bagot, Mr. Fred Ives, Miss Mary Powell. T. M., Mr. Alexander Telford. Matinée, Tuesday, at 2.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (twice nightly) Olga and the Diving Norths; Nelly Farrell; Louis Taylor and company present "The Adder's Tooth"; the Aerial Smiths, trapezists; Master Worlick, boy vocalist; Carlotta Levy, comedienne; Potter and Hartwell, humorists; pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME. P., Palace Theatre and Hippodrome (Burnley), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. J. Rintoul.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Karno and company present "Wakes Week"; Daisy Cauler, comedienne and dancer; Ragolio, the R.A. tramp; Will Sullivan, comedian; Lecardo Bros., acrobats; Jack Morrissey, bushman and sharp-shooter, &c.; the Schillotts; Fred Karno and company present "Perkins, M.P."; pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Mr. H. G. Dudley-Bennett; R. M., Mr. H. de Hague Body.—This week (once nightly): Mr. N. Thorpe-Mayne's company present "Improper Peter." Cast includes: Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee, Mr. N. Thorpe-Mayne, Mr. Charles Kent Francis, Mr. Lennox Rashleigh, Mr. Fred Wallis, Mr. Ned Llewelyn, Mr. Victor George, Mr. Thomas Barry, Miss Winifred Gardner, Miss Margaret Dolomore, Miss Nellie Beryl, Miss Margaret Dennistoun, Miss Bessie Jewell, Miss Violet Masters, Mis Beryl Hamilton. Preceded by "Taffy's Wife." T. M., Mr. N. Thorpe-Mayne. Next week: "The Bear Leaders."

BURY (Lancs.).

ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Asst. A. M., Mr. J. G. McPherson.—This week: Mr. Charles Frohman presents "Peter Pan." The cast includes: Miss Pauline Chase, Holman Clark, E. Spencer Geach, Jessie Winter, Gertrude Lang, Alfred Willmore, Reggie Sheffield, Edward Sillward, Jane Wren, Mabel Thomas, Moya Nugent, and George Shelton.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Ernest Sims; Mus. D., Mr. John Peel.—This week (twice nightly): The Glenroy Troupe, characteristic dancers; Three Merrie Wags, harmony purveyors; the Three Richardinis, gymnasts; Boultbee, ventriloquist; Diana Hope and Monte Bayly, in "The Penny Dreadful"; and pictures.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto Culling; Asst. A. M., Mr. J. J. McPherson.—This week: Arthur Clifton, vocal comedian; and pictures.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; G. M., Mr. Max Jerome; R. M., Mr. James Mason.—This week: Mr. Alban B. Limpus' company appears in "Bella Donna." Company includes: Mr. E. W. Thomas, Messrs. Dudley Stuart, W. J. Butler, Hugh Rene, H. Gumpert, Ernest Watts-Tye, Douglas Lewis, Alfred McMahon, Horace Broad, and Frank Kidger, Miss Agnes Knights, Miss Flora Haydon, and Miss Georgina Wynter.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; M. & S., Mr. F. T. Boucher.—This week: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Mr. C. Vernon Proctor presents his company in "What Happened to Jones." The cast includes: Messrs. Charles Sewell, G. Carleton-Crowe, Frank Venn, Raymond Dudley, Claude Seaton, John Lirwell, C. V. Proctor, Misses Harrietta Polini, Nancy Clutterbuck, Sara Dudley, Christine Jensen, Connie Meadows, and Amy Rudd.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Allan Milton.—This week: Bleriot's Fairy Fountains; the Brookland Girls; Harpe and Harper; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday. Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Le Roy, Milton's Rag-time Band.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—This week: "Jelf's" (tour under direction of Messrs. Leighton and Yorke). Company includes: Messrs. Guy Leigh-Pemberton, Arthur McCulloch, Edward Onston, Godfrey Bowes, J. Court Harvard, Upton Sackville, Tom Howard, Ralph Gardner, Clarence Childs, Neville Audus, George T. Roberts, William MacEnzie, Claud Stevens, Misses Edith Cruickshanks, Laura Leigh, Cynthia Challis, and Dorothy Mason. T. M., Messrs. Leighton and Yorke. Thurs., Fri., Sat., matinée. Next week: Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter's company in "Doormats."

EMPIRE.—L., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank; M., Mrs. Hawkins; Mus. D., Mr. Davis.—This week (twice nightly): Dayson Bros., comedy and dancing duo; Lillian Farrar in song scena, "Our Lady of the Lamp"; Harry Carsdale, farmyard mimic; Martellee Trio, orchestral act; and pictures.

GUILDHALL.—This week: Mon., Tues., Wed., at 8. Matinées Tuesday and Wednesday at 3: Grand Festival of Classical Dance (Grecian, Russian, and Ragtime) (presented by M. Bernhardt). Company: Miss Ruby Ginner and her Grecian dancers; Mdlle. Ray Espinosa and M. Idzkowsky, Russian dancers; Miss Effie Grimaldi, dancer; Little Cora Goffin, child actress and dancer; Mr. Harold Franklin and his Ragtime babies; Miss Winifred Lestocq, soprano; Irma Suranyi Hungarian violinist.

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Robert Redford; Mus. D., Mr. Ambrose Mabbett.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "Autumn Manœuvres." The company includes: Huntley Wright, J. Gordon James, Harry Johnstone, Ivan Clark, Oswald Lingard, O. Ronald, John Valentine, Hugh Allen, Sam Welsh, W. V. White, George Garnett, Edgar Roberts, May Rawlinson, Bertie Adams, Pat Berry, Ida Stockwell, Gwen Connington, Nesta Allen, Violetta Bruce, Florence Fowler, Beatrice Willey. T. M., Mr. Lindsey Edwards. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.

THEATRE ROYAL.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Beaufort.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. C. Adolf Seebold and Matt Melrose present "Aladdin." The company includes: Miss Lalla Melrose, Miss Rita Moya, Miss May Bechstein, Miss Nina Bechstein, Miss Renee Ashley, Mr. Fisher Jones, Mr. Tom Maynard, Mr. Barrie Burns, Mr. Leslie Conway, Mr. Alf Jerome, Mr. Perce Jerome, Mr. Matt Melrose. Next week: Royal Italian Grand Opera Co.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—This week (twice nightly): May Moore Duprez; Willard; W. B. Raby, comedian; Durant Bros.; Doughty and Laney, in "A Woman's Way"; Walter Bellonini, juggler, and comedy assistant; S. W. Wyndham, comedian; Robert Riley, singer; Weston and Lynch, comedy duo; pictures.

CARLISLE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Sidney Bacon; R. M., Mr. Harry Armstrong.—This week: Mr. George Dance's company, in "The Chocolate Soldier." Cast includes: Mr. Villiers Arnold, Miss Florence Hylton, Miss Maggie Gormon, Mr. Walter Williams, Mr. Harry Barnett, Mr. G. Collings, Mr. F. C. Page, Miss D. E. Prichard, Miss Gladys Gregory, Mr. W. A. Harris, Mr. C. W. Hoddy, Miss Carrie Scott, Mr. Harry Cresse, Mr. Charles Sims, and Miss Alice Coverick. Next week: "Milestones."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. J. D. Askew.—This week (twice nightly): The Loreh Family, acrobats; Katrina Jangbourne; Conway George, vocalist; Cavallotti Bros., instrumentalists; John Child, tenor; Vera Nixon, comedienne and dancer; Chas. Emerald and Maude Dupre; pictures.

CASTLEFORD.

QUEEN'S.—P., Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Beanland and Emerson.—This week (once nightly): Ernest Krake and company, comedians, in "The Electric Tram Conductor"; Kid Orlando, in "Footology"; and pictures.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Charles Gadsby and Sons; B. M., Mr. Harry Masterman.—This week: Charles Barnard presents "White as a Lily." Cast includes: Misses Evelyn Vaudray, Violet Lytton, Winnie Webster, Doris Nowland, Trixie Gem, Mabel Coleman, and Messrs. Claud Bigwood, Sidney Raymond, Edward Avinal, Walt. E. Kirby, A. B. Lyons, E. H. Burton, William Paget, Walter Denham, Alfred Renton.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; A. M., Mr. Lionel Barnard; Mus. D., Mr. Albert E. Vicary.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie present "Milestones." The company includes. Mr. Frederick Groves, Mr. J. Patric Curwen, Mr. Ernest Graham, Mr. John Howell, Mr. Gordon Ash, Mr. Paul Wynter, Mr. John Killner, Mr. Henry Armstrong, Miss Hilda Francks, Miss Muriel Pope, Miss Marie Wright, Miss Grace Croft, Miss Dorothy Wood, Miss Barbara Neville. T. M., Mr. E. Taylor Platt. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—This week (twice nightly): Moller's Lilliputians; Cling and Clancy, comedians and dancers; Three Bros. Huxter; the Sisters Cora; Irene Keppell, comedienne and dancer; Alfred Wellesley, comedian; pictures.

EMPIRE.—Joint M. D.'s, Messrs. Oswald Stoll and Alderman H. E. Davis, J.P., C.C.; R. M., Mr. Lionel Melville.—This week (twice nightly): La Pia, dancer; Cliff Berzac presents "A Riding Academy"; Jack Lorimer; Griff, juggler; Cissie Curlette, comedienne; Stella Stahl, soubrette; Harry Cribben and company present "Come Aboard, Sir"; pictures.

CHELMSFORD.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME CO, LTD. — M. D., & A. M., Mr. Clifford Reid.—This week: The Carellis, in musical comedy, "The Musical Mill," novelty instruments and a clever dog; Connie Mascot, comedienne; Leo Carle, with his one-man drama, "The Betrayed Professor"; Geo. Barron, comedian; and pictures.

CHELTENHAM.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—This week: Mr. Robert Burnett and company in "The Bear Leaders." Company includes: Mr. Allan Harris, Messrs. W. S. Butt, Ian O. Will, George Goodwin, Robert Burnett, Charles Barber, Robertson Hare, Paul Smythe, J. Mitchell, Misses Ethel Russell, Janet Gillette, Francis White, Ethel Russell, Nancy Imlach, Rene Vivian, and Ormonde Wynne. Next week: "The Whip."

THEATRE OF VARIETIES AND CINEMA DE LUXE.—M., Mr. E. W. Carlton. This week: La Delbosq, in dancing scena and musical pot pourri; Mamie Morris, comedienne and dancer; and pictures.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Shakespere Shenton.—This week: Five Bombays, in singing and dancing act; Wee Vesta Henry, child mimic; and pictures.

CHESTERFIELD.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (Chesterfield), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. F. R. Sargisson; Mus. D., Mr. Bertram Brennan.—This week (twice nightly): Will Netta's Jockeys present "At the Races"; Mabel Costello; Arthur Page, comedian; Four Broadway Boys; the Maro Duo, comedians; Rolando Martin, comedian and patterer; Dolon and Darty; pictures.

CORPORATION THEATRE.—Mus. D., Mr. Tom Hague.—This week (once nightly; Saturday, twice nightly): Lady Little; Elroy, the Armless Wonder; Milton Mora Trio, in trampoline bar act; pictures.

CLYDEBANK.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard: R. M., Major Geo. Mitchell; Mus. D., Mr. A. De Gabriell.—This week (twice nightly): Chorley and Connor in comedy act; Sam Knox, Irish tenor; Wee Knight, female impersonator; Bros. Marcello, in tumbling and hand juggling; the Four McLeans in "The Children's Party"; and pictures. Matinée for children, Saturday, 2.30.

COLCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Chas. Macdona; L. & M., Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—This week: Mr. George Dance's company in "The Quaker Girl." Cast includes: Mr. Hugh Weybrance, Mr. J. W. Hooper, Mr. William Ogle, Mr. Cyril Dane, Mr. Charlton Hutchinson, Mr. L. Verno, Mr. Arthur Hayter, Mr. Henry Dench, Mr. John T. MacCallum, Miss Maud Denny, Miss Lily Alaine, Miss Elsie Wallace, Miss Olga Morra, Miss May Leslie, Miss Kathleen Haddon, Miss Madge Robertson, Miss Dolly Mercer, Miss Jessie Allen, Miss L. Anderson, Miss Gloria Egmont, Miss Sybil Coulthurst. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (Colchester), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. C. Turner Hallett.—This week (twice nightly): Sisters Josie, duettists and dancers; Gerano, juggler; Violet Romney, entertainer; Mr. Fred Emney presents Mr. J. M. Campbell and Miss Winnie Harbor in "A Sister to Assist 'er"; Mlle. Lolita, in artistic visions; Josh Dixon, comedian; the Benhills, comedy bar act.

CONSETT.

NEW TOWN HALL. — This week (twice nightly): Mohamed Ben Mohamed's Ten Souasa Arabs, tumblers; Tom Black, vocalist and mimic; and pictures.

ROYAL PICTURE HOUSE.—L., Smart and Todd.—This week (twice nightly): Orpheus Comedy Trio, Three Men and a Piano; Hal Miller; and pictures.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—M., Mr. Frank J. Pitt.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, at 2 p.m.): Leslie Moreton and Guy Heath's company, in "Our Miss Gibbs." Cast includes: Messrs. Sinclair Holden, Collins Rolfe, Wilfrid Norman, Benson North, Leslie Winter, Noel Spencer, W. Forbes, Fred Bentley, L. Edwards, Chris Wren, and Misses Kitty Hyde, Mona Glynn, Aubrey Ashton, Beatrice St. Vincent, Gladys Glynn, Dolly Townsend, Nan Pearson, Carmen Woods, Dolly Stacey, Ida Lorraine, S. Cuthbert, May Carson, Violet Tremayne, and Florence Ray.

CREWE.

NEW THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; R. M., Mr. L. F. Testot.—This week (once nightly): Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley present "The Prairie Outlaw." The company includes: Messrs. G. Belmore, T. Davies, E. Bikker, H. Sydney, H. T. O'Shea, G. Scully, F. Wright, J. Jones, F. Campion, Misses Nellie Lorraine, Nellie Masterson, and Nina B. Adams. Next week: "Ready Money."

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—L., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; R. M., Mr. W. C. Burns.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Rosa D'Estree, vocalist and dancer; Harry Friskey, comedian and juggler; T. E. Bates, comedian; Burr and Retter, acrobats and tumblers; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—M. D., Messrs. Adams and Archer; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. J. Nation.—This week (once nightly): "Monte Cristo." T. M., Mr. Phil Harper. The company includes: Mr. Wilson Coleman, Mr. Arnold Winters, Mr. T. W. Dunscombe, Mr. William T. Riley, Mr. Richard Hunter, Mr. George Fairhurst, Mr. Hugh Montgomery, Mr. H. W. Monte, Mr. Phil Harper, Miss Grace Turner, Mr. Frank Seymour, Mr. H. Smith, Mr. W. E. Johnson, Miss Marie Harcourt, Miss Ethel-dreda Taaffe. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: "Ready Money."

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Alfred Powley; Mus. D., Mr. Len Trevor.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter's company in "Our Flat." The company includes: Mr. Matthew Bolton, Mr. Harold Maligny, Mr. Fred Knight, Mr. J. Detliv, Mr. Ellis Dee, Mr. Harry Bell, Mr. Cecil Calvert, Miss Daisy Atherton, Miss Alice Calvert, Miss O'Connor, Miss Rita Spouti, Miss Louie Tinsley. Next week: "Dairymaids."

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay; Mus. D., Mr. Leslie Russell.—This week (twice nightly): Nash and Noel; King's College Boys; the Three Mahers; So Chi Too Loo Troupe; Edith Chantler; Cissie Lupino; Chanti; Marriott Edgar; and Arthur Roberts' company in "The Simple Life."

DARLINGTON.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—L. & M., Mr. James Bell; A. M., Mr. L. P. Prosser.—This week (twice nightly): The "Peggy" Syndicate present "Peggy." The company includes: Mr. Ellis Hofland, Mr. Charles Hanbury, Mr. J. K. Walton, Mr. Harry Hartley, Mr. A. Victor Martin, Mr. Frank Merry, Mr. T. H. Tindall-Hogge, Mr. John Dornan, Master Nathan Alter, Mr. Gus Oxley, Miss Madge Lucas, Miss Eva Macdonald, Miss Rosemary Faire, Miss Kitty Cressy, Miss Ella Wynne, Miss Lola Waffington, Miss Elsie Piddock, Miss Eva Wray, Miss Aline Heron, Miss Marion Keely, Miss E. Williams, Miss Vera St. Clair, Miss Gwenda Calvert, Miss Ethel Waldie. T. M., Mr. John Halpin. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: The Moore and Burgess Minstrels.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Philip Michael Faraday presents "The Chocolate Soldier." The company includes: Mr. Charles R. Walenn, Miss May Clarke, Miss May Tomlinson, Mr. Jack Martin, Mr. Horace Dukes, Miss Winifred Etheridge, Mr. C. Stuart, Miss Sadie Edwards, Miss Lillie Bell, Mr. Herbert Millard, Mr. Cecil Barnes, Miss Evelyn Vernham, Mr. Frederick Leigh, Mr. Arthur Reynolds, Miss Margaret Ismay. T. M., Mr. Herbert Carter. Next week: "Aladdin."

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Darwen Theatre Royal Co.; G. M., Mr. Thomas Baker; Mus. D., Mr. E. T. De Banzie.—This week (twice nightly): Rabottini and band of musicians; Harry Harvey, pattering postman; Three Clarkes, club manipulators and dancers; Hynd's Comedy Roosters; Eddy Lyle and big brother Larry, in comedy act; Will Douglas and company, the merry demon acrobats; Ethel Holland, vocalist; and pictures.

PUBLIC HALL. — L., Messrs. Riding, Hardcastle, and Rawlinson; M., Mr. J. D. Rawlinson. This week (twice nightly): Two Scotch Macs, comedians; Sisters Dunbar, instrumentalists and dancers; and pictures.

ALBERT HALL.—P., Messrs. Bradley and Hindle.—This week (twice nightly): Horace Monto in "Tommy Atkins at Play"; Chippy and Norton, comedians; and pictures.

DENTON.

EMPIRE.—P. & M., Mr. A. Ward, F.R.G.S.; M. D., Mr. W. E. Marsden.—This week (once nightly and matinée Saturday): Bright and Sultan, comedy couple; Violet Dane, comedienne, whistler, and dancer; and pictures.

DERBY.

GRAND.—P. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. C. Denley; Asst. M., Mr. J. B. Torr.—This week: Mr. George Dance's company in "Kismet," the cast including Messrs. Hubert Carter, Fredk. Annerley, Geo. R. Montford, Gerard Hamer, F. W. Ford, Ernest Gifford, W. G. Lennox, C. Wordley Hulse, Misses Georgina Milne, Nina Lyn, Amy Fanchette, Cynthia Raymond, Clarice Norman, Sylvia Sinclair, and Dorothy Delmar.

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. T. W. Moyes; Asst. M., Mr. A. J. Knight.—This week: Fred Eustace and company, in a comedy drama, "The Amber Light"; Lolo May Trio, gymnastic and contortion act; Ross Warren, eccentric comedian; the Swansons, comedians; and pictures.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC THEATRE. — This week: Fred Pullan and May Wood, comedy duo; and pictures.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. G. E. Prance; Asst. M., Mr. Wm. Baldwin.—This week: Henri de Vries, in sketch, "Submarine F7"; Three Orleans, vaudeville artistes; Grogie, character countryman; Bugler Carr, equilibrist; Ted E. Box, comedian; Herr Doring, with trained pigeons; La Rene, dancer; Bertram Banks, imitator; and pictures.

NEW PICTUREDROME. — P., Hippodrome (Devonport), Ltd.; Licensee, Mr. G. E. Prance.—This week (twice nightly): The Floradoras, in "Two's Company and Three's None"; Bert Symes, singer; and pictures.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week (once nightly): G. Carlton Wallace's company in "The Apple of Eden." T. M., Mr. Richard A. Greene. The company includes: Mr. J. G. Grahame, Mr. Percy Ballard, Mr. Richard A. Greene, Mr. Charlton Morton, Mr. W. S. Stevenson, Mr. Henry Chalmers, Mr. Robert Merrick, Mr. Fred C. Roper, Mr. George Merritt, Mr. P. G. Marlar, Miss Doris Gilham, Miss Evelyn Robson, Miss Gwendolen Verochoyle, and Miss Iris Trevarthen. Next week: "A Waltz Dream."

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; A. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—This week (twice nightly): The Great Roland, illusionist; Jean Alexander, comedienne and mimic; Royde and Villiers, in vocal and comedy act; Harvey Brinton, at the piano; Bessie Knight, comedienne; Lacori Family, in trapeze act; Chas. Baron, burlesque menagerie; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. G. W. & G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; A. M., Mr. E. Shepherd.—This week: Hicks and Yorke, singers and dancers; and pictures.

INDUSTRIAL HALL.—L., Andrews' Pictures, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Bernard O'Keefe; Operator, Mr. S. Crawshaw.—This week: F. Schofield, lecturer and vocalist; and pictures.

DONCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North; A. M., Mr. C. H. Bell; Mus. D., Mr. Charlton T. Waddington.—This week (twice nightly): By arrangement with Miss A. E. F. Horniman, Mr. Edwin T. Heys presents "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. Edward Benson, Miss Nellie Stott, Miss Altona Stafford, Mr. Edward Cooper, Miss Marie Grace, Mr. F. Gerard Clifton, Mr. Harry Denvil, Miss Dorothy Day, and Miss Frances Kendall. Next week: Messrs. Wood and Helsby's company in "Send Him Victorious," "A Beautiful Fiend," and "A Traitor Prince."

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North; A. M., Mr. C. H. Bell; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Burns.—This week (twice nightly): Maskelyne and Devant's latest and greatest mystery, "The Window of the Haunted House"; Irene Armitage, the charming vocalist; Harry Raymond and Ivy, the refined and finished entertainers; Edwin Lawrence, comedian, featuring his latest creation, "Scroggy, the Scout"; Martin Henderson, blind musical genius; John Earl, the hatedian; and Frank Elliston and company in "Three and a Fool."

DOVER.

PALACE THEATRE.—M., Mr. F. Loveridge, T.T., M.A.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Steele's company in "Mysteries of the Thames."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. W. Winter; M., Mr. E. W. Holford; Mus. C., Mr. C. C. Hill.—This week (twice nightly): Margit and Lener, comedy acrobats, in "Wet Paint"; Hilda Bull, comedienne; Chas. Denham, comedian and dancer; Frank Cumminger and Frances Colonna, sand dancers; Edie Buckingham, in song and story; Talberto and Douglas, absurd people; Harry Taft, comedian; and pictures.

KING'S HALL.—M. D., Mr. H. R. Geddes; M., Mr. Coveney.—This week (twice nightly, to appear at all evening performances): The Finney Sisters, the water nymphs; King and King, comedians; and Les Raymonds, duettists.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. Chas. Hyland.—The F. R. Benson company are here in their second week, and on Monday night gave a delightful representation of Shakespeare's inimitable comedy, "The Merry Wives of Windsor." Mr. Henry Herbert, who created such a favourable impression last week, appeared as Falstaff. His reading of the part of the fat knight was indeed a masterly performance, and his many quips and eccentricities were received with unbounded delight. The ladies, one and all, were excellent, especially Miss Gladys Vanderzee (Mistress Ford) and Miss Laurence (Mistress Page). Mine host of the Garter Inn was admirably portrayed by Mr. Horace Braham, whilst Mr. Cairns was capital as Sir Hugh Evans. On Tuesday "Queen Tara" (a notice of which appears on another page) was produced for the first time. Wednesday, "The Comedy of Errors"; Thursday, "The Taming of the Shrew," and the rest of the week was given over to magnificent productions of "Julius Cæsar" and "Macbeth," in both of which Mr. Henry Herbert added considerably to his already high reputation. Next week: George Dance's company in "The Whip."

THEATRE ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. Chas. Terry; Mus. D., Mr. John Moody.—"The Restaurant Episode," in which that droll comedian, Mr. Alfred Lester, appears, causes many a hearty laugh; the Coloured Octette, seven gentlemen and a lady, treat the audience to the latest American music, in which rag-time figures prominently; music and mirth are the outstanding features of a delightful act by the Three Lyres, who gain an imperative encore; Tiny Arnold has some good numbers, which he sings excellently. A daring performance on the slack wire by Claude Roode, and some capital club-swinging by the Kavanaghs are other features of the programme. Young and Evans, a pair of Yiddish comedians, and Austin Rudd, an amusing comedian, make up a tip-top programme, an added attraction being the capital selections of Mr. Moody's orchestra.

QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Henry J. Baynton; A. M., Mr. Chas. Wright.—An exciting drama of Mormon life, entitled "Through Death Valley," is drawing crowded houses here nightly. The acting, in keeping with the play, is excellent all round. Arthur S. Pitt as Elder Catchpole of the Mormon Church and Tom Owen as his son, Isaac, being especially good. Jim Middleton, the hero, is played with great feeling and an amount of earnestness by P. Barry Lewers, while his brother Jack is represented by W. H. Pointon. Miss Amy Hardcastle plays the harassed heroine, Bess Hamilton, whose cruel tortures elicit genuine sympathy. Miss Winifred Haymes is a charming child actress, and Frank Bertram and Miss Nellie Warden as a pair of squabbling domestics cause many a laugh.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—M. & Sec., Mr. George Marsh.—A new comedian is introduced here this week in the person of Victor Kelly, who, with good songs and an original style, scores in no uncertain manner. Artusa performs some daring equilibristic acts with consummate ease and finish. David and Marriott harmonise delightfully, and the Four Kemptons provide a vocalistic treat. The Two Lillies sing in a fascinating manner, and prove themselves fine dancers; Sarah Hicks fulfils all the requisites of a charming comedienne; Jack Audley, comedian, and Will and Nell, a pair of clever dancers, complete.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—M., Mr. Chas. M. Jones; Asst. M., Mr. H. Murphy.—Pat, Olga, and Avice present a refined musical act; the Jenkins Bros. present an acrobatic act, in which skill and comedy are admirably blended; Barlow and Brooks sing in finished style; Hal Bryan, chorus comedian, meets with every suc-

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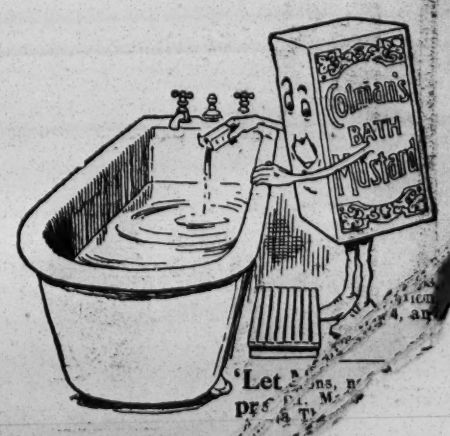

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ceas; and others worthy of praise are Heather Belle, a comedienne from Bonnie Scotland; Sylvene, who performs some wonderful equilibristic feats; and Julian Ross, an actor-vocalist. The Sisters Lindon sing some rag-time ditties, which meet with general approval.

ROUND ROOM ROTUNDA.—P., Mr. John T. Jameson.—Tom Garland conjures cleverly and possesses a rich vein of humour, his success is unmistakable; and Miss Murphy's ladies' orchestra is much to the fore. Pictures complete.

WORLD'S FAIR VARIETIES.—M., Mr. R. J. Goldston; Mus. D., Mr. Sanderson Smith.—This week (twice nightly): The Voices, comedy duo; Dorothy Reed, chorus comedienne; Jack Greenwood, vocal comedian; pictures.

BODEGA. — Commercial-buildings, Dame-street; Wines, Spirits, Cigars, &c.; Restaurant, Luncheons, Sandwich Bar; Theatrical papers.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Dudley Opera House, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. F. Edgar Manaton.—This week: Miss Ethel Ward and company, in "Her Madcap Majesty," by Edward Marris. Also the same author's latest sketch, "Mum's the Word." Godfrey Kneller, in musical act; Menlo and Menora, acrobats; Nan Taylor, comedienne; Archie Pitt, comedian; Phil Ludo, comedian and whistler; and Gwen Alma, comedienne.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Licensee and A. M., Mr. Louis Karpe; Mus. D., Mr. H. Merritt Loseby.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Robert Courtneidge presents "Princess Caprice." The company includes: Messrs. Eric Thorne, Gordon Cleather, Jo Monkhouse, Harry Ray, Albert Kavanagh, Horace Lingard, James Stevenson, Ormsby H. McKiernan, Basil Kempfield, Lamont Dickson, Leslie Vernon, Lewis Oliver, Lane Mott, Leslie Riley, T. Emery, Misses Marie Blanche, Isabelle Dillon, Mary Dandridge, Olive Purcell, Gwen Kinross Betta Donne, Doris Vinson, Lillian Constance, and Adriene. T. M., Mr. Wm. Morgan. Matinée, Saturday, 2.15. Next week: "Proud Maisie."

GAIETY THEATRE.—L., Gaiety Theatre (Dundee), Ltd.; Licensee & M. D., Mr. Henry C. Cavanah, C.A.; Mus. D., Mr. J. Murphy.—This week (twice nightly): Lillie Williams presents "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Messrs. Wm. Matheson, Tubby Edlin, Glanmore Jones, John E. Conan, Eddy Foy, Jack M'Cormack, Sam Poluski, jun., Harold Perry. Misses Maude Esmond, Rose Wylie, Nellie Clifford, Jessie Cameron, Madeline Hurst, and Elaine Cliffe. Specialities by the Killarney Girls. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—L., Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; Licensee & M., Mr. S. McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. E. B. Rogers.—This week (twice nightly): Edward Marris presents "Faking the Film; or, Skinnymacolour," with Freddy Rigby, comedian, as Mugg, the Billsticker, and Louis Du Cane as the Manager; Peter and Potts, comedians; Rondelle Billington, violinist; Roma and Romani, in musical act; Jack Smiles, comedian; Greta Mack, soprano; Elfie Fay, "the Brazilian nut"; and pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. J. Bennell; A. M., Mr. C. J. McArthy.—This week (twice nightly): The Brothers Devlin, Scotch singers; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

PAVILION PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—P., Messrs. R. and J. Pennycook; M., Mr. J. Pennycook; Mus. D., Mr. James Walton.—This week (twice nightly): Linn and Darius, in instrumental act, introducing "It's a long way to Tipperary"; Dare-Devil May, trick cyclist; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. J. Bennell; A. M., Mr. Tom Lunn.—This week (twice nightly): Stowe Brothers, equilibrists; the Wedburns, vocal comedians; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Blyth.—This week (twice nightly): Sabina, "the merry musical monarch"; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

NEW HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. A. E. Binnall; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ruse.—This week (twice nightly): Reel and Tulloch, entertainers; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

WEST END CINEMA.—S. & T., Mr. Alex. Mitchell.—This week (twice nightly): Gladys Ardane, "the serio with the educated feet"; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L. & M., Messrs. Murray King and Clarke; Mus. D., Mr. Wilson B. Dibble.—This week (once nightly, for the first three evenings of the week): Mr. B. Iden Payne's company in "Man and Superman," "The Man of Destiny," and "How He Lied to Her Husband." The company includes: Martin Sands, Wilfred Fletcher, Isabel Turner, Esme Percy, Carrie Haase, Minnie Webb, Emily Patterson, Sylvia Dawson, Arnold Reynor, Alfred Payne, and Desmond Brannigan. For the remainder of the week: "The Younger Generation."

PIER PAVILION.—M., Mr. George Hayes; Mus. D., Mr. E. W. Peilgen.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Charles Harrington's company in "Uncle Tom's Cabin." The company includes: Mr. J. H. Boehm, Mr. Raymond Wallace, Mr. Bertram Howard, Mr. Percival Young, Mr. John Gibson, Mr. Edward Leroy, Mr. H. Jenkins, Mr. W. Eversleigh, Mr. A. Aston Roe, Mr. Edie Roberts, Mr. Jack Black, Mr. A. Lewis, Mr. J. Lewis, Mr. J. Martin, Mr. J. Newton, Miss Hero Hathaway, Miss Florence Tyler, Miss Blanche Leroy, Miss E. Stuart-Graham, Miss Annie Watson, Miss Lizzie Allen, Miss Mabel Bowman, Miss Ethel Mastersan, and Miss Stella Harrington; Davis Mowing, comedian; the Tennesseans, jubilee singers; Dinah Dixie, plantation songstress and dancer; John Bradley, rifle manipulator; Fred Davis, buck dancer; W. H. Moore, coloured basso; Carlton Byron, coloured vocalist; Arthur Coombes, banjoist; and Lilian Danby, soprano.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—This week (twice nightly): Lockhart's elephants, presented by Captain Taylor; Will Cornish, in musical speciality; Stalman and Russell, in comedy sketch, "Borrowed Plumage"; La Belle Nyaha, in Oriental speciality; East and Fuller, comedians; Alfred Wharton, comedian; Florence Don, entertainer; and the Bioscope.

EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Simon Ord; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—Continued from last week, Mr. Edward G. Hemmerde's romance of the Highlands, "Proud Maisie," is still the attraction here, with Mr. Vernon Steel, Miss Laura Cowie, Mr. Rohan Clensy, Mr. J. J. Bartlett, Mr. Frank Esmond, and others, included in an exceptionally good cast of about sixty performers, under the management of Mr. Arthur Hardy. The F. R. Benson Shakespearean Company is announced for next week.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Wm. Whitehead; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—The Bohemians' Amateur Lyric Opera Company has occupied the boards of this house during the week with "Nell Gwynne," a notice of which will be found under "Our Amateurs" column.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., The Edinburgh Construction Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. P. L. Howat; Mus. D., Mr. A. Douglas Wilcox.—Mr. Graham Moffat's "A Scrape o' the Pen," which was seen for the first time in Edinburgh last Monday, marks a distinct advance upon the dramatist's earlier efforts. It was of advantage to the presentation of the play to have the author in the quaint part of Mattha Inglis, which Mr. Moffat acted with rare excellence. Every phase of the character was artistically shown, and the performance is one of the most admirable that has been seen in modern days. Mrs. Graham Moffat as the gentle, lovable Leezie Inglis gave a piece of acting of genuine merit, and succeeded in rendering the part in the best style of art that conceals art. Mr. Watson Hume as Hugh Menzies acted with conspicuous success, and Miss Mattie Maclellan in the character of Jean Lowther revealed high intelligence, her scene while singing to the child evoking one of the most spontaneous outbursts of applause that have been heard in a theatre. The minor rôles were acted with ability, especially noticeable being the Flora McGilp of Miss Margaret Noble, a capital character study; the Mrs. Baikie of Miss Agnes Miller; the Beenie Scott of Miss M. Balvaird Hewitt; the Alec Inglis of Mr. Robert Purdie; and the Geordie Pow of Mr. Joseph Barker. "Till the Bell's Ring," a clever one-act comedy by Mr. Graham Moffat, played as a curtain-raiser, gave Mr. Walter Roy, a versatile comedian, the opportunity of distinguishing himself by a fine impersonation of the part of John Snodgrass. At the close of the principal piece the large audience recalled the actors with enthusiasm, and Mr. Graham Moffat made a short and graceful speech in acknowledgment of the reception of the play and the players.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. T. Aynsley Cook; Mus. D., Mr. James Howarth.—Marie Lloyd this week easily filled both the leading place on the bill and the house, the popular comedienne greatly entertaining her hearers with a selection of lively songs culled from an extensive repertory of old favourites, as well as new character ditties. Ethel Loftus, too, proved herself a smart character artiste; and a very pleasing turn, comprising songs and dances, was provided by Frances Letty and a number of clever assistants. Wild, Willie, and West gave variety to the programme with their fun and expertness as acrobatic comedians; the Melody Makers, in a phantom scena, entitled "The Burglar's Dream," made a most favourable impression as vocalists, and a sand dance by one of the minstrels was very well executed; while the magical experiments of Austin Temple, the Scots patter and songs of Donal McDougal, the impersonations of Wilfred Burnand, and the pleasant singing of Luis Alvarez were all thoroughly enjoyed.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. R. C. Buchanan; R. M., Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—This week: Cummings' variety and picture entertainment. Turns are contributed by Rene, lady juggler; Bella Sylvia, vocalist; New York Comedy Quartette; Daisy Graham and troupe of performing birds and animals; Williams and Parker, vocalists and patterers; and Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. J. E. Atkinson.—This week: Enzer Trio of jugglers; Jenny Young, vocalist; Jack E. Gray and Tom H. Wood, comedians; Parks and Price, instrumentalists; and pictures.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. B. Hampton; Mus. D., Mr. George Cooper.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. B. Iden Payne and H. Theodore's company present "The Younger Generation." The company includes: Rupert Harvey, Ethel St. Barbe, Dorothy Kingsley, W. Bridges-Adams, Eda Farmer, George Owen, James Vernon, Eric Graham, Kenneth Bruce, Catherine Herbert, William Dexter. Preceded by "The Tallyman." T. M., Mr. William Dexter. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Mr. B. Iden Payne presents "Man and Superman." The company includes: Martin Sands, Wilfred Fletcher, Isabel Turner, Esme Percy, Carrie Haase, Minnie Webb, Emily Patterson, Sylvia Dawson, Arnold Reynor, Alfred Payne, Desmond Brannigan. Friday evening only, "The Man of Destiny." T. M., Mr. Alfred B. Croll. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Gay Lord Quex."

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—A house crowded in every part welcomed the Carl Rosa Opera company on Monday, when they opened a two weeks' season with an excellent performance of Mozart's "Magic Flute." As the opera has not been played in Glasgow for 25 years, it was a novelty to most of the audience, and, in addition, this was the first time it has been given here in English. The cast was a strong one. Mr. E. C. Hedmondt sang with his customary fervour as Tamino, and Mr. Frederick Clendon made a most notable success, both in acting and singing, as the bird-catcher, Papageno; Mr. Arthur Winckworth's powerful voice was of excellent value in the part of the High Priest, Sarastro; Miss Beatrice Miranda sang the florid music of the Queen of Night with infinite ease; Miss Dorothy Lawson Taylor made a most attractive Papagena, and with Mr. Frederick Clendon secured an encore for their clever duet in the last act; Mr. Chas. Neville as Monostatos acted well; the three Genii were ably filled by Misses Geverding, Deane, and Hemsley; and Messrs. T. Lansdale and Wm. O'Connor sang their parts well as the two priests; Miss Elizabeth Burgess gave a perfect rendering of the rôle of Pamina, and was in splendid voice; other parts were well played by Misses Walker, Becker, and Wilson. On Tuesday "Mignon" was given, with a cast that included Mesdames Ina Hill, Beatrice Miranda, and Janet Hemsley; and Messrs. Gordon Thomas, Frederick Clendon, Arthur Winckworth, and T. Lansdale. Mr. Walter van Noorden conducted both operas.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes presents "Gipsy Love." The company includes: Mr. Leonard Mackay, Mr. Ian Colquhoun, Mr. Walter Adams, Mr. William Spray, Mr. Grafton Williams, Mr. Kelso Henderson, Mr. C. C. Ommanney, Mr. Lauri de Frece, Miss Avice Kelham, Miss Daisy Burrell, Miss Grace Wixon, Miss Evelyn Harding, Miss Berenice Maxwell, Miss Blanche Tomlin. T. M., Mr. J. Garrett Todd. Matinée, Saturday, at 2. Next week: "Ways and Means."

GRAND.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. B. Crane.—"His Child Wife," which is paying a visit here, has all the elements which go to make up a successful melodrama. In the title-rôle Miss Marion Wakeford pleases all parts of the house; a wonderful piece of acting is Mr. Frank Lindo's James Hackett, the villainous mill proprietor; while as Arnold Mayne, the middle-aged hero, Mr. Stephen C. Venner is all that could be desired; the female accomplice of James Hackett, Flora Mayne, finds a clever exponent in Miss Kate Randolph; and the Rev. Harry Denton of Mr. Sydney Dench is also a finished performance; the humour as supplied by Miss Cissy Whitefield as Phœbe Wilkins and Mr. Hal Dane as Tom Barker is immensely enjoyed; good work is also done by Mr. T. Graham Smith as Captain Fairholme and Mr. John Soden as Ebenezer Crouch.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—P., Mr. Rich Waldon; A. M., Mr. Hugh Murdoch; Mus. D., Mr. Henri Vollmer.—The South Side pantomime—now the only one running in Glasgow—is still attracting large audiences. Miss Jennie Hartley and Miss Kitty Dale, principal boy and girl, are immensely popular, and their songs and dances are highly appreciated; Miss Kitty Emson and Miss Rita Emson are also great favourites; Mr. Dan Whitley as leading comedian is highly successful, and he keeps the audience in roars of laughter all the time he is on the stage; Mr. Billy Walters and Mr. Ernest Plumpton are also very good; all the other parts are well sustained, and special mention should be made of Miss Eveline Kington, Miss Cissie Verne, Mr. George Mawson, Mr. Cecil Rutland, and Mr. Stanley Damerill, and also Mr. Harry Emerie.

METROPOLE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Arthur Jefferson; A. M., Mr. Harry E. Edwin.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company in "The Slave Girl," a story of America's fight for freedom, made an impressive appearance here this week, play and company alike being above the average, and the various negro ditties, songs and dances were received with every sign of favour. As Esther, the slave girl, round whom the interest of the piece centres, Miss Ward went through the trying part very effectively; Mr. S. Elwyn-Leslie gave a thoroughly good interpretation of Captain Edward Hamilton, of the Southern Army; as did Mr. Fred Rivers as Crawford, the overseer of Hamilton's plantations; Dr. John Fielding was capitally rendered by Mr. A. Arnold Allan, in which he was ably assisted by Miss Effie Macintosh as Nellie Hamilton, his sweetheart; humour predominated in the characters of Noah B. Smart, a Yankee pedlar, and Angelina, a slave in love with him, by Mr. Victor Cannon and Miss Rosie Chambers respectively; the other parts were in capable hands, not the least interesting being the part of Little Lnce, a slave girl, by Miss Gem Lloyd.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; M., Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—An interesting and varied programme is submitted here this week. The principal attraction is Tom Foy, the clever dialect comedian, supported by a quartette of clever artistes, who present the farcical absurdity, "First of April"; another very pleasing turn is that provided by Daisy Yates, vocalist and dancer, direct from her pantomime success; other notable turns include Jock McKay, Scotch humorist; Gladys Mavius, comedienne and dancer; Isa Wise, comedienne; Reardon, Wilson and Douett in a refined vocal and dancing act; High-Davos troupe of trick roller-skaters; and the Milandro Quartette, a clever combination in a delightful musical act.

PAVILION, LTD.—M., Mr. Evan Good; Mus. D., Mr. R. F. Steele.—A strong company is billed here this week, headed by Fred Barnes and Gwladys Soman, both of whom were great favourites in the Royal panto. Unfortunately, the former could not appear on Monday, owing to loss of voice. Barnold's dogs, including Dan, the drunken dog, are a favourite turn; Mlle. Liane D'Eve in her French songs, with dressing-room intervals, is again here, and is well received; the Three Lascelles in "The Aviator"; Kitty Douglas, a popular comedienne; Three Bros. Reigals, acrobats; and Ena Florence, Dutch delineator and mimic, are the other attractions. Billy Williams, the man in the velvet suit, has deputised all week for Fred Barnes.

PALACE.—P., Mr. Rich Waldon; G. M., Mr. Harry McKelvie; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Fellowes.—Billy Williams, "the man in the velvet suit," sings some capital numbers in his own breezy style; "The Devil's Elbow," written by John F. Traynor, is a fine sketch of Canadian Wild West life; Mr. C. Eden Little, Mr. Sydney C. Kearns, and Miss Gipsie Earle, the principals, are all excellent; "The Washing House Key," by J. M. Hamilton, is responsible for much laughter, and is well acted by Miss Mollie Lindsay's company; Murphy and Mack in "The Major's Reflection" provide endless amusement; Lowell Bros. in a balancing and musical act are excellent; Arthur Woodville is a good light comedian and dancer; the Three Orros give a display of strength which takes well; as vocalists and speciality dancers the Three Duggans are very good; and the Sisters Iris are smart dancers and good duettists.

COLISEUM.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Arthur E. Barnes.—Eugene Stratton's artistic song-scenas go wonderfully well here, particularly "Uncle Jasper," in which he has the assistance of Miss Aida Hall; that refined comedienne, Dora Lyric, sings her numbers with much charm; Juggling Nelson puts the house in excellent humour with his amusing hat tricks; Hal Baker was unable to appear, his place being taken by Williams and Wells, a smart dancing combination; the Three Cape Girls also excel in the step-dancing line; "Over the Garden Wall," a pleasing musical duologue, is given by Talbot and Pearce; the Romanows' acrobatic act is very clever; and Koko, the man-gorilla, contributes a tight-rope performance with much grace.

ALHAMBRA, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt; M., Mr. Edward Foster; Mus. D., Mr. Howard Croft.—"Don't You Believe It," by Harry M. Vernon, is a strong playlet illustrative of life in the Far West, and the denouement comes as a surprise to the audience. The principal characters are ably portrayed by Miss Sylvia Marris and Mr. Winnington Barnes; Herbert Lloyd, the king of diamonds, is at his very best in a humorous absurdity, entitled "Discordia"; Potts Brothers and company score a brilliant success in a screaming farce, "A Double's Troubles"; the Corona-Gatty Trio are a musical treat in "The Silver Hall of Harmony"; the Griffiths Brothers' wrestling scena is one of the funniest acts in variety; others contributing to this strong bill of fare are Walter Williams, light comedian; Fred Sylvester and company in a unique hand-balancing act; Alfredo, the vagabond violinist, who is a master of technique; and the Eight Germania Girls, who give an exceedingly smart vocal and drilling act.

LYCEUM, GOVAN, LTD.—R. M., Mr. J. H. Oakden; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Walker.—Dr. Walford Bodie, hypnotist, scientist and entertainer, this week at the Lyceum gives an interesting entertainment; he also amuses the audience with his ventriloquial sketch. "The Laird's Highland Party"; Alfred E. Bodie is a society illusionist who takes well; a singer of exceptional ability is Lily Lonsdale and Mlle. Vine plays the concertina cleverly; the other turns on the programme are Wee Mona Burns, comedienne; Three Eltons, triple horizontal bar comedians; Ernie Myers, comedian; Dolly Robson, singer; and Mlle. Sara's White Living Pictures.

OLYMPIA.—L., Messrs. De Frece and Edelsten, Ltd.; M., Mr. John McMillan; Mus. D., Mr. Lex Holmes.—Lowenwirth and Cohan, Hebrew comedians, maintain their high standard of mirth-provoking, funny stories and musical ditties that has made them so popular; the Max Franklin Troupe perform sensational acrobatic feats; while the combination of performing goats trained by Miss Ronna Shannara are worth seeing; Wully Walker is a smart Scotch comedian; and the Wilton Heriot Three in farcical episode, "Artful Alfred," create plenty of fun; a sterling turn is given by Guy Rider, the premier whistler; and Ella Gold submitted several numbers in first-class style; Charlie Lloyd and Cissie Barwick contribute a smart, refined comedy piece; and the Olympia pictures are a source of delight. Both houses were well filled.

SAVOY, LTD.—L., Messrs. Williams, Ltd.; M., Mr. H. Godwin.—Lillie Williams' mammoth programmes are drawing enormous audiences here, and this week's programme well deserves the patronage. The Mannon Troupe repeat their success in "Uncle Yank"; Little Zaza is a marvellous thought-reader; whilst La Belle Toscas gives a clever wire-walking act; other numbers on the bill are the Bros. Geddes, comedy musicians; Fred Milburn, ventriloquist; Le Blond and Sisters Ol Dare in an aerial act; Arthur York and Mabel Payne, "The Butler and the Maid"; Christie and Zamont, rag-timers; Elsie Ellis, comedienne; Arthur Albert, comedian; the Ethairiens, comedy duo; Scott's Royal Juveniles in "Our Fisher Folk"; Maude Western, male impersonator; Vall and Der in "The Stage-struck Slavey"; Phil Phillips, coon singer; Nancy Lauder, comedienne; the Gavillet Trio in an American speciality; Mabel Hylda, première danseuse; and Probyn and Bates in "The Dude and the Soubrette."

PRINGLE'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. M., Mr. George Paulton; Mus. D., Mr. William Milne.—This week (twice nightly): Donia and Leonard, deservedly popular with their song-scena, "Fight for Mother, Little Man"; Dan Booker, a light comedian who has good songs and quaint mannerisms; and several admirable pictures.

STAR, PARTICK.—P., The Star Picture and Vaudeville Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Chandos.—The Yorkshire Rustics are first favourites in a novel song-scena, entitled "Yokels at School," in which the vocal numbers are charmingly rendered, while their dancing items are cleverly and neatly executed; the ever-popular Sandy Donaldson meets with acceptance in patriotic numbers; while the Balfours are highly diverting in the presentation of their musical comedy act; a varied series of animated pictures concludes.

HENGLER'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Albert Hengler; G. M., Mr. Harry Milne.—The opening of the picture and vaudeville season on Monday was evidently an event of importance, judging by the large and happy crowds. The variety turns include: Langley and Maguire, a very clever musical and comedy act; James Davis, a smart comedian; and Ombler, a versatile entertainer.

PANOPTICON.—P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; M., Mr. W. Sinclair; S., Mr. G. E. Dunning.—This week (four performances daily): Lily Clare, comedienne; Maide Florence, comedienne and dancer; the Beatties, Scotch comedy duo; and pictures.

CASINO.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Mr. H. C. Glenroy.—This week (twice nightly): Florence Lambeth and Robert Robertson; James Fairlie, tenor; Pat Clarke, novel dancing juggler; the Jingles, comedy duo; and pictures.

PICTURE PALACE, IBROX.—P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Mr. W. Sowerby.—This week (once nightly): Harry Platter, comedian and juggler; Transfield's Monkey Circus; Bros. Retford, comedians and dancers; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, at 3.

GLOSSOP.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Sydney Spenser; A. M. & Mus. D., Mr. W. E. Cottrille.—This week: Mr. Chas. Locke presents "Bonnie Mary." The cast includes: Messrs. George Lyttleton Holyoake, George Dudley, John Cullen, Ernest J. Fare, Victor T. Raymond, Wadle Spinner, Charles Myers, Tom Senior, Wm. Grante, Frank Preston. Misses Leah Marlborough, Lissa Young, Alice Morrow, and Beatrice Malvern.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Will Smithson; R. M., Mr. R. T. Rea.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Will Casey presents "Her Ruined Life." The company includes: Frederick F. Lloyd, Frank Irwin, Will Casey, Edward Swinton, Henry Wright, Dicky Bird, W. Fisher, Cecil Roberts, F. Davis, Arthur Wright, H. Hammerton, Edie Tempest, Annie Mitchell (Mrs. Will Casey), Florrie Kelsey. Next week: "Allah's Orchard."

KING'S HALL.—L., Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.—This week: Messrs. J. R. and C. W. Poole present "The Loss of the Titanic." The variety turns are the Five Dainty Dolls, W. L. Rowland, and W. Gesta.

GRANTHAM.

EMPIRE.—P. & M., Mr. J. A. Campbell; A. M., Mr. W. Marshall.—This week (for last three nights, twice nightly): J. W. Cordiner and Harry Richardson present "The Colombo Girl." The company includes: Messrs. Leonard Mentz, Charles Dawe, Finn Doyle, Arthur Lenville, Charles Tolcher, Misses Jessie Thompson, Gertrude de Lacy, Nellie Harcourt, and May Warden. Next week: "With Edged Tools."

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Sole P., Mr. W. H. Nightingale.—This week: Mr. J. Newton Cowling's company presents "The Collier's Lass." The company includes: Messrs. David Curtis, J. Dobson Clyde, J. Newton Cowling, Carlyle J. Douglas, Cyril Crasen, Bert Johnson, John Locke, J. Eastbrook, Fred. Barnes, the Misses Ivy Clowser, Lynn Darlington, Ella Beverley, Mona Gray, Minnie Dean.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—This week: La Vino; Alex; Geo. Daley; Foiay and Francis; the Royal Giro Sans; and pictures.

GEM.—M. D., Mr. E. V. Barr.—This week: Mlle. Palermo and Signor Chefalo; Nancy Benyon; Maude Edwards; and pictures.

GUERNSEY.

THEATRE ST. JULIANS.—M. D., Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; R. M., Mr. George A. Deighton.—This week (once nightly): Lola Vereker and company in tabloid musical comedy; Weaver and Wentworth, versatile couple; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3 p.m.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—Miss Cecilia Dare's Repertory Company is here this week, and opened on Monday with "Sowing the Wind." The company is a good one. Mr. Conrad Heywood gave a true conception of the part of Mr. Brabazon; his acting all through was easy and natural, and his delivery was perfect. Mr. Howard Hardy as Lord Petworth has little to do, but does that little well. He gave the old roué to the life, alike in make-up, gesture, and manner. Miss Cecilia Dare gave splendid support as Rosamund. Other capable artistes are Mr. Ernest Lodge, Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle, Mr. C. M. Doyle, Mr. W. J. Moss, Miss Rose Banques, Mr. T. Norman, Miss Maud Leslie-Cudd, Miss Lena Turner, Miss Cissie Ashley.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; A. M., Mr. J. Hinton.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Foxwell presents "Only a Mill Girl." The company includes: John Burton, Jack McCaig, Harry C. Robinson, Rupert S. Carlton, Bernard Lovett, Edwin Clarke, Roy Gordon, J. Perry, Paddy, Maurice Lambert, Joseph Foster, T. Henry Melton, Bertram Taylor, Tom Myers, H. Snow, Daisie Cook, Emmis Dorris, and Alice Greenwood. T. M., Mr. Rupert S. Carlton. Next week: "Mill Girl to Millionaires."

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Edgar O. Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest A. Widdop.—Beatie and Babs are going strong here this week. Miss Rena Briten gives a smart ball-punching turn. Charles Torbay submits a clever shadowgraph show. Couquelli, mimic, is an acquisition, and others appearing are Drawee, Frisco, and Hambo, "Fun at the Hottentot Hotel"; Will H. Fox, trick pianist; Tom Purlow, comedian; and Dorothy Leigh, a refined comedienne.

HANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Hanley Theatres and Circus, Ltd.; M., Mr. Frank Powis.—This week (once nightly): Geo. Dance's company, in "The Hope." The company includes: Franklyn Ballamy, J. L. V. Leigh, R. S. Trelawney, Montague Weston, Harry Hardy, Frank Sealey, E. Clifford Cobbe, J. Michael Watson, John Baxter, Frank D'Esterre, Leslie J. Banks, V. Harbord, Bertram Phillips, Harry Bhydora, Enid G. Forde, Hilda Vaughan, Daisy Gwynne, René Gordon, Winifred Burke, Freda Wharton, Marjorie Lawton, Ivy Shepperd. Matinée, Thursday, 2. Next week: "The Monk and the Woman."

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock; A. M., Mr. Eric Fielding-Smith.—This week (once nightly, for three nights): C. Vernon Proctor's company in "What Happened to Jones." T. M., Mr. Raymond Dudley. The company includes: Mr. Charles Sewell, Mr. G. Carleton-Crowe, Mr. Frank Venn, Mr. Raymond Dudley, Mr. Claude Seaton, Mr. John Lirwell, Mr. C. Vernon Proctor, Miss Henrietta Polini, Miss Nancy Clutterbuck, Miss Sara Dudley, Miss Christine Jensen, Miss Connie Meadows, Miss Amy Rudd. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: Vaudeville entertainment.

HEREFORD.

KEMBLE THEATRE.—M., Mr. E. Stanton Jones.—This week: "The March Hares." The company includes: Messrs. Davey Burnaby, John Latham, Bernard Ansell, Misses Maud Aston and Fay Lonnen, and Mr. Philip Braham.

GARRICK THEATRE.—M., Mr. Arthur Sharp.—This week: Messrs. Whitney and Joyner, comedians, and pictures.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.

GAIETY.—P., Messrs. Ainsley and Hall; R. A. M., Mr. Robert Ainsley; M. D., Mr. Alex Schmidt.—This week: "A Mother's Love." The company includes: Miss Louie Adair, Miss Winifred Acton, Miss Edith Kirke, Tiny Hetty, Messrs. Frank Adair, Andrew Moore, Gerton Ashard, Ernest Hamilton, Walter T. Hybert, Conrad E. Stratfield, and Wilfred Mansfield.

EMPIRE.—P., Houghton Empire Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. W. H. Lindon Travers.—This week: Will and Rose, comedians; J. Humphries, comedian; and pictures.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. Fred Benton.—This week (once nightly): Mr. G. Bernard Shaw presents "Fanny's First Play." The company includes: T. Conner, Gordon Simpson, Algernon Syms, Olive Baxter, Richard Green, F. Payne Palmer, L. Herbert, L. Sealy, jun., Charles Macdona, Adelaide Grace, Frank G. Bayly, Nellie Hodson, E. H. Paterson, Marie Rignold, Ethel O'Shea, Gilbert Ritchie, Herbert Garthorne. T. M., Mr. L. Herbert. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.15. Next week: "Milestones."

PALACE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Herbert Garside.—This week: Miss Marie Schultz, assisted by Billy Miles; Mignon and Frassettie, in a musical act; Miss Margaret Doris, with performing dogs; the Oakes Duo, in "Woman's Rights"; Miss Lily Cole, in humorous illustrated songs; the Meymotts and Miss Rochie Webemia,

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in comedy, "In the Future"; Miss Vera Caine, in an athletic act; Strength Brothers, in hand-balancing feats; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. S. Winks; Mus. D., Mr. T. Hoyle.—This week: Mr. Morton Powell's company in "From Mill Girl to Millionairess." Company includes: Miss Pattie Hastings, Miss Florence Hamilton, Miss Irene Carrington, Miss Lizzie Lennon, Mr. Alfred Stretton, Mr. Fredk. Freeman, Mr. J. A. Hybert, Mr. Richard Webb, and Mr. Western Beecher.

HULL.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Mortons, Ltd.; M., Mr. W. F. Morton; Mus. D., Mr. Louis Hermann.—On Monday night Mr. Jas. Welch brought to the city for the first time his new comedy "Seven Days." The acting was everything we could desire, for there is no gainsaying Mr. Welch's worth as a comedian. Miss Audrey Ford is a talented artiste who makes all that is possible of the rôle entrusted to her. Another very capable artiste of whom we have pleasant recollections, Miss Ada Blanche, does good work. The utmost praise is due to Miss Athene Seyler cast as Mrs. Anne Browne. Miss Marie Hemingway does herself credit as Kitty. Good aid is given by Messrs. L. Pringle, Vivian Gilbert, and Jas. Lindsay.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd.; M., Mr. Geo. Morton; Mus. D., Mr. Watts.—A fine play, "The King's Romance," is that which opens the week of repertoire given by Miss Mary Austin and Vivian Edmonds' company. The chief rôle, that of the Prince, is finely sustained by Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds. Miss Mary Austin always illuminates her work with fine artistry, and plays the rôle of Vera with much charm. In the heavy rôle Mr. Harold E. Kinton won the execration of the gods. The Baron was well played by Mr. A. Byrne. Others who distinguished themselves were Miss Ethel Vinroy and Mr. Harry Harrup, cast as Lizette and Bartaz. Other plays to be performed during the week are "The Cotton Spinner" and "Her Kingdom of Love."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. John S. Barnett.—Whit Cunliffe, the popular light comedian, provides an attractive turn in this week's programme, and with a budget of catchy songs increases the popularity he has previously obtained; Howard and Harris humorously depict "The Adventures of a Happy Tramp," and create unbounded merriment; Vittorio and Georgetto exploit a novel topsy-turvy entertainment which secures hearty approval; Tom Costello in his new character song, "Pit-mates," was a popular favourite; the Six Ceylons are responsible for some exceedingly smart acrobatic feats in their comedy, "A Dream in an Opium Den"; the Paulhan Trio received rounds of applause for their novelty football match on cycles; the Harlequinaders delight everyone in a sparkling mélange of mirth and melody; the Keppels, vocalists, and Doris Duquesne, juvenile comedienne and dancer, contribute items of acceptance; and excellent bioscope pictures conclude.

TIVOLI.—L., The Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Slingsby.—Top of the bill here this week is occupied by the Two Vivians, America's greatest sharpshooters, who present a quick-firing act with phenomenal success; the incomparable Vonetta, illusionist and protean actress, met with a gratifying reception; the Gothams, harmonising vocal comedians, greatly delight their many admirers; a novel sketch is that presented by Keino Johnston and company, entitled "The Three Thieves"; the performance submitted by Dalmere's Table Circus is exceedingly interesting; other good turns are the Goodalls, double somersault artistes; Buck Baker and company in a Western episode, "Pete, the Sheriff"; and Sims Woolley, eccentric comedian.

ILKESTON.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. Aubrey Allen.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2).—George Bowes presents "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves." Cast includes: Mr. Charles Towers, Miss Emmie King, Miss Ethel Mavis, Mr. Will Parkin, Mr. Sid Vance, Mons. Zeimar, Mr. Ted Freeling, Mr. Harry Scorey, Mr. Tom France, Miss Nelly Scorey, Miss Trix, Miss Trixie, Miss Sadie Fern, Miss Hambrook, Miss Hinks, Miss Ford, Miss Davies, Miss Gunnell, Miss Kemble, Miss Evans, Miss Connor, Miss Vernon, Miss Lawne, Miss Sybil Rayne, Mr. Percy Mavis, Miss Gladys Edwards, Miss Ethel Zeiman, Miss Florrie St. John, Miss Cissie Hopkins, Miss Rosie Gandy, Miss Lily Stoddart, Miss Iris Cecil, Miss Phyllis Cecil, Miss Hilda Cecil, and Miss May Cecil.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—P., The Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; L., Messrs. Murray King, Clarke, and W. H. Savery; R. M., Mr. H. Cecil Blumberg; Mus. D., Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—This week: Miss Lena Ashwell's company, from Kingsway, in "Diana of Dobsons," including Mr. Harold Anstruther, Mr. Andrew Money, Mr. P. G. Beale, Mr. A. B. Bute, Miss Caroline Fenton, Miss Maud Bracewell, Miss Madge Severne, Miss Elsie Sterling, Miss Dorothy Mayhew, Miss Evelyn Hall, Miss Clara Huntley, Miss Cicely Oates, and Miss Katherine Harrington. Next week: "His Indian Wife."

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; R. M., Mr. A. Gordon Bostock.—This week: Mr. Charlie Bell in "The Photographers"; David Paget, violinist; the Du Gros Trio, aerial gymnasts; the Brothers Lawler, dancers; Fettmah, in magical entertainment; Miss Dess Desborough, soprano; Clyde Cook, eccentric; and pictures.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL. — L. & M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; A. M. & S., Mr. T. Edward Evans. — This week (twice nightly): Geo. A. de Gray and Harry Masterman present "The Indian Scout." Cast includes: Geo. A. de Gray, Max Coutts, David Blair, Tyrone Power, Reginald J. Turner, Dick Crosby, Seymour Perry, Bert Carlton, Jack Soderick, Gerald Conner, Leonard Douglas, Miss Kitty Fitzgerald, Miss Doris Brereton, Miss Etta Turner, Miss Violet Ingram. T. M., Mr. Geo. A. de Gray. Next week: Dr. Walford Bodie.

NEW EMPIRE.—P., The Jarrow Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. Percy Dawsone. — This week: Stanley Robinson, vocalist; Jack and Willie, coon artistes; the Marvellous Howes, second-sight artistes; and pictures.

JERSEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—L., Jersey and Guernsey Amusements Co., Ltd.; Joint M. D., Messrs. Edward Marris and Albany Ward; R. M., Mr. Stanly Hope; Asst. A. M., Mr. G. F. Williams.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 3): Five Broadway Belles, dancers; Leighton and Melville, comedy couple; and pictures

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE. — L., Lillie Williams and Co. M., Mr. T. Rodger.—This week: Mr. George A. Street's company in "The Cattle Thief." The company includes: Messrs. Mitchell, Fox, Orchard, Dobson, Leech, Alltree, Henry, Drury, Hamilton, and Palmer, Misses Beatrice Western, Mabel Norrie, Kathleen Russell, and Amy Ellis. There are also two Indians and a cowboy band; and an exhibition of marksmanship is given by Montana Bill.

PALACE.—M., Mr. J. Cummings.—This week: Mr. Nicol Pentland, in a picture recital, "Robert Burns"; the Carlsen Trio, in comedy speciality; O'Donovan and Rosa, singing and dancing act.

LANCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Tom Braithwaite; Mus. D., Mr. John Parker.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Herbert Skardon presents "The Death or Glory Boys." The company includes: Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews, Mr. Beckett Bould, Mr. Herbert Skardon, Mr. A. Edward Brook, Mr. A. Newton Pearce, Mr. Chas. Holmes, Mr. Joseph Harding, Mr. F. Kelsham, Mr. John Evered, Miss May Beatrice, Miss Lally Wynne, Miss Nancy Mitchell. Next week: "La Poupée."

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. John Ponter.—This week (twice nightly): Hal and Lal, ventriloquial entertainment; Ellerslie Pyne, in "Too Late," or "An Actor's Dream"; Winona and King, in speciality; Miss Ida Re'vell, comedienne; the Dalgarnos (Guy and May), in comedy skit, "Caught Napping"; and pictures.

LEEDS.

GRAND.—P., Theatre and Opera House (Leeds), Ltd.; M. D. and Licensee, Mr. John Hart.—This week (once nightly, and matinée, Saturday, at 2): Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company in "Find the Woman." Cast includes: Mr. Frederick Victor, Mr. Oliver Crombie, Mr. Olaf Hytten, Mr. Ernest Cassel, Mr. Arthur Elwyn, Mr. Walter Goodwin, Mr. Lewis Clarke, Mr. James Carr, Mr. Fred Charles, Mr. Leonard Seymour, Mr. Matthew Forsyth, Miss Marion Lockey, Miss Sybil Clayton, Miss Agnes Verity. T. M., Mr. Eric G. Merrie. Next week: "The Dancing Mistress."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Francis Laidler; G. M., Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth; A. M., Mr. Geo. H. Almond.—This week (once nightly): Last two weeks of "Dick Whittington." Thursday, benefit to Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth (general-manager), and Miss Clarice Mayne (principal boy). Matinées, Tuesday and Saturday, at 2.

QUEEN'S.—P., Mr. F. W. Wood; M. and Licensee, Mr. Charles Bush.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in "The Prairie Outlaw." The cast includes: Mr. William Melvyn, Mr. Ernest Vaughan, Mr. Gerald Shirley, Mr. John Croudace, Mr. J. Russell Bogue, Mr. Cyril Dundas, Mr. Fred Mewburn, Great Star, Mr. Robert Gilroy, Running Elk, Mr. Frank Wallace, Miss Nellie Wood, Master Addison, Miss Madge Douglas. Matinée, Monday, 2.30. Next week: "A Child of the Streets."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. P. C. Rowe.—This week (twice nightly): Six Bros. Luck, in "H.M.S. Perhaps"; Bros. Curran, comedians; Irene Meldon; Gwennie Llewellyn, vocalist; the Paulastos; Great Weiland, juggler; Harry Fields, comedian; Edie King, comedienne; Barton and Ashley, in "Money Talks."

HIPPODROME.—R. M. & Licensee, Mr. Bertram J. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. Herbert W. Lister.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Karno presents "The Bailiff"; Clifford and May; the Hesseys, vocalists and instrumentalists; Potter, the American Scot; Verno and Voyce, in vocal snap-shots; Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie's company in "Susan's Embellishments"; Alice Wyatt, popular principal boy; the Courtiers, in musical comedy numbers; and pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: Miss Marie Studholme.

CITY PALACE. — P. and Licensee, Mr. Fred Wood; M., Mr. Harry Dunford.—This week (twice nightly): Wilson Robert's Australian Larrikins in vocal comedy; Lord, musical collier; Mabel Thorne, comedienne; Tom Gott, comedian; Dale and Rossi, comedians; Dan Rooke and Wynberg, in "Blacksmith Act"; and pictures.

LEEK.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. and M., Mr. James Bibby; Mus. D. Mr. H. W. Goldstraw.—This week (twice nightly): Athelda, lady athlete; Jean Gordon, magician; Farrow and Fiske, comedian and comedienne at the piano; and pictures.

SALISBURY PALACE.—P., The Leek Skating Rink Co., Ltd.; Licensee, Mr. Sampson Salt; G. M., Mr. George Salt; A. M., Mr. George E. Gough; Mus. D., Mr. Harold Ellis.—This week (twice nightly): The Raymond Trio present musical and dancing act; Sinclair's Mannikin Music Hall, living marionettes; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—P. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. J. Andrews; Mus. D., Herr Theo. Klee.—Miss Ida Molesworth's and Mr. Mark Blow's company, presenting "The Easiest Way," provides this week's attraction. As the actress, Laura Murdock, Miss Elsie Goulding does exceedingly well; and Mr. J. Edward Pearce as the financier, Willard Brockton, is also to be praised for his clever delineation. Mr. Pringle Roberts is a capable representative of the newspaper man, John Madison; and Miss Norah Vaughan as Rifle St. Clair, Miss Bessie Frank as Annie, Miss Sybil Claymore as Mrs. Williams, Miss Lilian Belmore as Mrs. Farley, and Mr. Michael Staples as Jim Weston, also deserve commendation.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; A. M., Mr. P. Allerton Turner; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Vann.—A special attraction is provided here this week in Mr. Derwent Hall Caine's company in "The Christian," which has the merit of being played by a good all-round combination. Mr. Derwent Hall Caine repeats his usual success as John Storm; and Miss Ellen Aggerholm as Glory Quayle is also excellent. Mr. Ernest K. Nelson is good as Lord Robert Ure; Mr. Geoffrey Gilbey as Horatio Drake is excellent; and the others in a long cast play their parts in a most commendable manner.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. George F. Reynolds; Asst. M., Mr. W. Faber Stewart; Mus. D., Mr. John W. Lowe.—An account of the unexpected deluge at this theatre on Saturday evening will be found in another column, and it now only is necessary to repeat that the performance of Mr. Hengler's exciting water spectacle, "Mexico," was carried out on Monday evening without a hitch. The production entails a vast amount of work, which was got through in splendid style, and the efforts of the company were warmly applauded. Mr. W. Almers, in the principal part of Nick Carter, is good; and Mr. W. Doodles as Swaggers, Mr. F. Eaglesfield as George Westwood, Miss Marie Kildare as Mrs. Westwood, Miss Elsie Joyle as Elsie, Mr. L. F. Durell as John P. Westwood, Mr. T. Thompson as Tranquillo, and Mr. C. Martinetti as Miguel should also be praised. A fine reception is meted out to Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, whose versatility as an artist delighted everyone. The Crisps are very good in "The Little Deputy," in which some clever dancing is gone through. Harry Moore is unquestionably the smartest paper tearer we have seen in Leicester; Tom Woottwell goes well, especially with his song, "Watching the barges go by"; Rene Ralph is a pretty and vivacious comedienne; and Minnie Mace is also another chic and dainty comedienne. The Bioscope completes.

PAVILION THEATRE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Britcher.—The leading attraction here is Mr. Frank F. Street's company in the Western sketch, "The Gun Fighter," in which Mr. Frank F. Street, in the principal part of Mike Harlan, makes a conspicuous success, being supported in the other parts in capital style by Mystya Naveau, Katie Eplett, W. H. Walker, G. Lonsdale, and F. Gavillet. The sketch is meeting with a very good reception. Mlle. Louise and Bruno Pitrot are particularly smart as equilibrists in their original speciality, "The Mobil Bar," which is something entirely new here. Other artistes who are also appearing with success include the Sisters Ratcliffe, operatic duettists; Bros. Bass, popular patterers; Harry Whitmark, comedian, with funny parodies; Nell Glyn, vocal comedienne; and Elton, eccentric comedian. The Bioscope pictures are still a popular feature.

EMPIRE.—Sole L., The New Bioscope Trading Co.; R. M., Mr. Charles R. Craig.—A goodly list of pictures and Sam Wragg, comedian, comprise this week's entertainment here.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Secretary, Mr. W. S. Rosie; Hallkeeper, Mr. G. Stanyon.—Mr. Will Catlin's Royal Pierrots entered on their second week here on Monday, and presented a new and thoroughly entertaining programme.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole L., Messrs. F. Gould and G. Jordon; G. M., Mr. Geo. Jordon; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Haydock.—This week: Mr. James Bell presents "A Fatal Crown." The company includes: Mr. Roy Cuthbert, Mr. Victor Gordon, Mr. W. H. Milton, Mr. Alex Gillette, Mr. John Manners, Mr. Herbert Goddard, Mr. Edward Rey, Mr. Guy Kinley, Mr. Wm. Sadler, Mr. W. Larkspear, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. Leicester Hulk, Mr. J. Deville, Little Tichbourne, Miss Ethel Toney, Miss Ethel Watkins, and Miss Annie Bell. Next week: "The Arcadians."

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—S. & A. M., Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—This week: Mr. W. Payne Seddon presents Mr. Herbert Ralland's company in "The Girl in the Train." The company includes: Mr. Claude Cameron, Mr. Bertram White, Mr. Walter Wichlow, Mr. Ralph Forster, Mr. Claude Hogg, Mr. Barry Rayne, Mr. E. Owen, Mr. H. Read, Miss Winifred Dunkley, Miss Elsie La Barte, Miss Lily Henry, Miss Lilian Renad, and Miss Violet Rangdale.

LEITH.

GAIETY THEATRE.—P., Mr. F. R. Graham-Yooll; G. M., Mr. R. M. Stratmore; Mus. D., Mr. John Crossley.—This week (twice nightly): The pantomime of "Mother Hubbard." Cast includes: Mr. Peter Bermingham, Miss Maggie Fraser, Miss Edie Haley, Mr. J. E. Stephens, Mr. Chas. Jackson, Messrs. Sam and Jack Lavelle.

LINCOLN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and Pope; R. M., Mr. Percy Tyler.—This week (twice nightly): On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Ethel Van Praagh and J. Edward Whitty's company in "The Eyes of the World"; and on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, in "The Hand of Destiny." Company includes: Mr. J. Edward Whitty, Mr. A. Austin Leigh, Mr. Guy P. Ellis, Mr. B. Stuart Chedburn, Mr. John E. Corless, Mr. Harold Ford, Miss Flora Hastings, Miss May Neilson, Miss Dorothy Dewhust, Miss Beatrice Hulment, Miss Ethel Van Praagh.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. George T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Jullien H. Wilson. — The pantomime, "Tommy Tucker," has put in the last week.

SHAKESPEARE.—M. D., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. John Gaffney; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Shea.—This has been the finishing week of the successful pantomime, "Jack Horner."

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Fred Coles; Mus. D., Mr. F. Thompson.—The stirring play, "Blackguard of the Queen's Regiment," has been doing good business here during the week. Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson was again admired in the strong rôle of Captain Keloff; Miss Tessa Myers gave a praiseworthy interpretation of the Queen; Mr. Sydney A. Monckton powerfully enacted Prince Karnac; Miss Mysie Monte proved a dignified Countess Torvet; and other worthy supporters were Messrs. Stanley W. Healey (Lieut. Agra), Walter Parks (Rambra), and Cyril Harrison (Mr. Sheridan), and Miss Alice Barber (Verna).

REPERTORY.—G. M., Mr. Basil Dean; B. M., Mr. T. J. Pigott; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—The first appearance in Liverpool of the late St. John Rankin's comedy, "The Charity that Began at Home," has been received here with much satisfaction, and public support during the week was good. Miss Aida Jenoure delighted everyone with her natural playing of Lady Denison; General Bonsor, with his wearisome tales, was admirably handled by Mr. Wilfred E. Shine; the outrageous Mrs. Horrocks was capitally undertaken by Miss Fanny Olive; Miss Gabrielle Paull played Miss Triggs; and Mr. Richard Coke Mr. Firket with care; Miss Estelle Winwood's Margery was attractive and girlish; Mr. Algernon Greig made the most of William, the servant; a brilliant piece of work was that offered by Mr. Norman McKeown as Basil Hylton; Mr. Sheil Barry, who made his début with the company, confidently presented Verreker; and Miss Beatrice Smith played Mrs. Eversleigh very neatly. Thanks were due to Mr. Laurence Hanray for the perfectness of the production, and to Miss Norah Charrington for the stage setting.

KELLY'S.—L., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Reginald Grant; Mus. D., Mr. J. A. Gardner.—Here this week the attraction has been "The Monk and the Woman," very ably presented by Mr. Fred Melville's company. In the rôle of Paul Mr. Ronald Adair played with fine dramatic force, and certainly made a strong impression; Miss Alice Mosley was Liane, a character very ably handled; while the principals were capably assisted by Messrs. Jerrold Manville, Alfred Nightingale, R. Marius St. John (the Monks), Harry Cullingford (Father Ignatius), Leonard Thackeray (Montrale), Lewin Mannering (the King), Miss Mary Pemberton (Madam Vigne), Miss Rita Rothwell (Unknown Girl), and Miss Marie Stella (Vernet). On Monday evening the admirably mounted play was witnessed by a crowded audience, whose rounds of applause at the close of each act testified their appreciation.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Manners; Asst. M., Mr. Arthur Hicks; Mus. D., Mr. George M. Saker.—The bill here this week was topped by the always welcome Albert Chevalier, whose latest songs delighted big audiences. He had the assistance of Mr. J. C. Holliday at the piano. Andrew McManus, as an Irish comedian, pleased greatly; the black-faced comedian, Happy Jack Gardner, had some funny songs and sayings; Fred Keeton's eccentricities were a source of much merriment; Russell Brandow showed himself a clever dancer; that able burlesque actress, Miss Lily Burnand, had a most flattering reception for her efforts; Park's Eton Boys and Girton Girls supplied a very pleasing vocal and dancing scena; and the Five X-Rays, "mad athletes," gave a much appreciated display of boxing, wrestling, and gymnastic work.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Mus. D., Mons. R. Klasse.—Top of the bill this week was Mr. Leonard Mortimer and Co., in the dramatic sketch, "Billy Boy," which was put on in grand style, and gave much satisfaction; Dowland and Joy had a neat little comedy act, "The Enemy"; Paul Bonar brought some new songs; Peggy Wyse had a hearty reception for her rag-time songs; the Meadens were a capital comedy team; as a mimic at the piano Norman Thompson proved a good turn; Phil Bransby gave some acceptable chorus songs; and the Eight 'Varsity Girls pleased with their songs and dances.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. George F. Slatter; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Braham.—The premier place on the bill here this week has been held by Miss Marie Loftus, who proved as popular as ever, her new and taking songs being very acceptable; Ethel Stephenson at the piano rendered several contralto numbers in good style; the Ketos proved particularly funny, their eccentricities causing great laughter; as a delineator of everyday characters J. W. Hall gave much satisfaction; the audience watched with close interest the efforts of Tom Jersey and his assistant with their amusing shadowgraphy and magic; Zella Vondi and Co. provided a brilliant musical pot-pourri, beautifully presented, for which they received rounds of applause; the Motley Four were first-class vocalists with humorous interludes; and Walter Bird's company met with great favour by reason of their funny sketch, "Her Husband."

ROYAL PALACE.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Frank O'Toole; Mus. D., Mr. G. Dibbert.—The stock company here have this week given "Two Little Scout Boys," from the pens of John Dunbar and Herbert Lloyd. A deal of interest was added to the production by the appearance of a number of Liverpool Boy Scouts. The principal rôles were in the hands of Messrs. Harry Tresham (Jack Vanbrough), Sydney Grant (Captain Stephen), R. Seath Innes (Bertie), Leo Montgomery (Bob Gillings), Cecil Ravenswood (Sir George), John Davidson (Michael), Miss Beatrice Hudson (Mrs. Cornelia and Mrs. Maguire), Miss Gwynne Warren (Marguerite), Miss F. Melrose Millett (Evelyn), and Miss Doris Neil and Miss Florence Cameron (Scout Boys).

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. E. W. James; Asst. M., Mr. D. Casey; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—The big success which followed the formation of the Palladium Christy Minstrels in London naturally aroused a deal of expectation in the Mersey city, where for about thirty years the Sam Hague troupe had a home and a habitation; and when it was announced that the London show would come this way great interest was evinced. The enjoyment was unmistakable, and regret has been expressed that the visit was for one week only. Mr. C. Maynard Brown was the interlocutor; Billy Richardson (late of Sam Hague's) had a rousing reception for his stump speech; Lionel Rotheby sang "Hello, Cupid," to everybody's delight; "Sleep" was artistically rendered by Ernest Pitts; W. Haines met with rounds of applause for his "Rag-time goblin man"; and after the chorus had given numerous old-time nigger ditties, the first part concluded with "Hitchy koo." Part two included a musical niggeretta. "The Homecoming of Massa Jack"; and a sketch, "Dr. Whackem's Academy." The opening chorus of "God Save the King" was very impressively given, the vast audience standing.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Walter Hassan; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—A special line here this week was Guy Standing and Co., including Miss Dorothy Hammond, in the smart comedy dramatic sketch, "The Blackmailer," which was favourably received; Hanlon Bros. and Co. provoked shouts of laughter with their farce, "The Haunted Hotel," a delightful musical and comedy turn came from the Viennese Trio; great applause was showered upon Dorris and Francis, a couple of ladies who gave a fine exhibition of simultaneous dancing; Gorman's Juveniles had a pretty and refined vocal scena; Harry Halsey made everybody laugh at his "curtains" trifle; Rembrandt, with his chromatic pistol, did some clever cartoon work; and Joe Peterman's company caused laughter with "The Pawnbroker" sketch.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—P., Longton Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. H. Sheriff Howard.—This week (twice nightly): The Queen's Repertory Company present "The Sin of Her Childhood." The company includes: Mr. Frank Pettingell, Miss Conny McNeill, Miss Gertrude Glanmor, Mr. F. B. Woulfe, Mr. Ernest R. Allen, Mr. Henry Carlisle, Mr. Fred Hodson, Miss Winnie Warden, Mr. William Gardiner, Mr. Arthur Gordon, Miss Edith Loraine, Miss Amy McNeill. Next week: "When it was Dark."

LUTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; B. M., Mr. Louis J. Beard.—This week (twice nightly): Dottridge Longden and Liell present "Kit Carson." The cast includes: Messrs. John S. Millward, Chas. H. Longden, Edward Vivian, Henry Deane, Victor Knight, Bernard Liell, W. Leighton, Bert Hacking, Stanley Wilton, J. Wood, and Misses Jeannie Weston, Cathleen Cavanagh, Marie Longden, and Georgette Thierry. T. M., Mr. Bernard Liell.

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. W. K. Gatley.—This week: Mr. Ernest E. Norris' company, in "The Walls of Jericho." The company includes: Mr. E. Norris, Miss Ray Parry, Miss E. O'Donohoe, Mr. E. A. Wheeler, Miss May Hobson, Mr. F. Castleman, Miss M. Clutterbuck, Miss Mary Kingsley, Mr. R. Watt, Mr. C. A. Olger, Miss Beryl Paul, Mr. J. Hellier, Mr. G. Nordern, Miss Agnes Bruce Smith, Mr. F. Valder, Miss Viola Marsh, and Mr. C. Dashwood.

MAIDSTONE.

PALACE.—P., T. S. Dickie and Co.; R. M., Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. C. Adolf Seebold's pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Misses Gracie Rosslyn, Olive Desmond, Rosa Charles, Vesta Brownie, Elaine Rosslyn, Sylvia Rosslyn, May Portsmouth, Freda Butler and Messrs. Fred Walker, Harry Walsh, Dai Griffiths, Geo. Ritchie, Geo. Collins, Sam Moore, and Harry Phillips. Specialities by Victor's Six Fireflies, Ferris and Farnby, Three Comedy Chanters, and Nelson and Broughton.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., the United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Licensee and M. D., Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. Edmondstone Shirra; Mus. D., Mr. C. W. Chambers. — This week (once nightly): John Hart's pantomime, "Dick Whittington," comes to an end, after a highly successful run. The production has well deserved the encomiums passed upon it as a brilliant and unflagging show, remarkable for the excellence of the players and the happy equality of their opportunities.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — P., The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. George Lee; Mus. D., Mr. Chas. W. Chambers.—Mr. George Edwardes's company, in "The Dancing Mistress," remains here for a second week, still drawing full houses.

GAIETY THEATRE.—P., Miss A. E. F. Horniman; D., Mr. Lewis Casson; A. M., Mr. W. Roberts-Marshall.—An extraordinary programme here comprises "The New Sin," a play for men only, and "Miss Tassey," a one-act tragedy employing women only. The first-named play, improbable, but full of thrills and cleverness, provides dramatic opportunities for a well-chosen cast. Mr. Jules Shaw plays Hilary Cutts in his usual effective style; and another outstanding performance is the David Llewellyn Davids of Mr. H. F. Maltby. Mr. Francis Hope's Peel is also good; Mr. Harold Neville plays Will Grain with commendable sincerity; Mr. Eliot Makeham as Jim Benziger is quietly effective; and Mr. Russell Thorndike contributes a sensitive and realistic performance as the degenerate Maxmilian Cutts; while the remaining rôle of Stuart Capbell, the moneylender, is ably filled by Mr. Bernard Copping. The total impression produced by Mr. Macdonald Hastings's play is distinctly good and novel. Miss Margaret Morris and her Dancing Children occupy the stage at matinées.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Brearley; Mus. D., Mr. J. Colton.—Messrs. Travis Green and Graham Winsford are presenting here this week the popular drama, "The Pride of the Prairie." The piece is exciting and picturesquely put on, while the cast, efficient all round, includes Mr. Stephen E. Scanlon, in his unquestionably powerful impersonation of Carlos Durango.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. C. W. Meek; Mus. D., Mr. Edward Bleasdale.—We have here the Raynor Repertoire Co., in "Moths," "The Idler," "Still Waters Run Deep," and "David Garrick."

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Mason.—A strong attraction is here in the shape of "Leah Kleschna," presented by Mr. S. R. Squires, by arrangement with Chas. Frohman. Miss Emmie Clayton in the title-part gives a remarkably good performance, while as Kleschna Mr. William Clayton makes strong play with his opportunities, and Mr. S. Herbert Humber is excellently suited as Paul Sylvaine. These are the principal rôles, well enough handled to carry the play through with flying colours, but they are very efficiently supported by the remaining members of the cast.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. C. H. Bayley.—Mr. J. Newton Cowling's company is here in Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's attractive domestic drama, "The Collier's Lass." Elsie Shelton as Grace Copley and Stanley Radcliffe as Tom Fielding shine in the leading rôles, while on the side of villainy are Kenneth Jackson as Frank Cecil, Ben Carr as Hubert Cardel, the mine owner, and Annie Graham as Maud Fernley. Bert Johnson as Joe Miggins and Bella Moody as Mary Ellen Nuttall contribute most of the humour, and others who do well are Harry Sainsbury, William H. Melrose, and Adell Liddon, in interesting parts.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Horace Cocks; Mus. C., Mr. R. Hardwick.—The star attraction here this week is Neil Kenyon, who appears in Scottish comedy items, and whose humour is vastly enjoyed. Fred Rome and Lady in "Gone to Lunch" provide smart farce; Kara, the Continental juggler, gives one of the cleverest and most wonderful performances seen here for a long time; Dion Wade's comedy and mimicry is distinctly good; J. A. Wilson and his dog Towser come in for their usual applause; Deane Tribune and Estelle Cerrero appear in a comedy mélange; Sharp's Tromboneers give a good instrumental turn; and Elsie Clair cleverly completes a fine, all-round programme.

HIPPODROME. M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Nelson Barry; Mus. C., Mr. Alfred Haines.—Mme. Anna Eva Fay figures largely here in a wonderful mystic performance divided into two parts; first, in cabinet séances, &c., and second, in "Somnolency." Mme. Fay gives a skilled and scientific manifestation of powers that simply astound the huge audiences who flock to witness these occult demonstrations. Another popular feature of the bill is Miss Margaret Moffat and company, in "The Scrub Lady," a notice of which appears elsewhere. Good turns are added by Lydia and Amelys, the Parisian dancers; the Three Wille Bros., masters of the art of equilibrism; the merry and melodious Minnie Love; Joe Peterman's "The Fox Hunt," vocal and dancing scene, in six tableaux; and the Three Collegians, in entertaining music and song.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Peter Watson; S. and Asst. M., Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Mus. D., Mr. T. H. Craggs.—A remarkably strong bill is provided here. Arthur Prince, the "Prince" of ventriloquists, with his dummy sailor, keeps the house in roars of laughter, and is rewarded with unstinted applause. Ella Retford, fresh from her triumphs in pantomime at Leeds (who, however, did not appear on the occasion of our visit, on account of indisposition) also occupies a prominent position on the bill. Dolly Elsworthy and company appear in the elaborate historical sketch, "The Orange Girl"; Tom E. Hughes, comedian, contributes quaint and enjoyable eccentric items; Lottie Lennex, the chorus comedienne, maintains her popularity; and other smart business is added by Barney Armstrong and Kelly, comedians; the Four Arconis, comedy tumblers; and Doris Trevelyan, the girl with a voice.

TIVOLI.—P., The Tivoli (Manchester), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; A. M., Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes; Mus. D., Mr. George Neilson.—The principal turns here are Gilday and Fox, in Hebrew comedy, and Haley's Garden of Girls, in song and dance. "How Do! Rag-time," is played by Len Baum, Bert Rossiter, Harry Metz, Ethel Morden, Millie Leonard, Rube Walman, Frank Leonard, Lottie Williams, and Kittie McBean. The programme also includes Hal Russ, comedian; Joan Deering, violinist; Cissie Thompson, comedienne; Harry Piquo, gymnast; and Wal Croft.

HULME HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Dry; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—John Tiller's successful pantomime, "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves," is proving a good draw here. Freddy French plays Ali Baba in clever style; Nelly Rodney is a capable Ganem; and Jessie Gerrard makes a charming Morgiana; while the fun is in the practised hands of Taggart Craughan, Nelly Amstell, E. J. Barker, and Messrs. Truro and Breece. There are special dances by the Four Lotus Girls and the Twelve Little Tots.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE, OPENSHAW.—L., Alhambra (Manchester), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. D. Moorhouse; T. M., Mr. Arthur S. Evanson.—This week (twice nightly, and Monday matinée, 2.30).—George N. Ballanger presents Young Buffalo and company in "King of the Wild West." Cast includes: Young Bu

THE SPIRIT OF SHAKESPEARE.

"In discussing Shakespeare from the plain man's point of view," says Mr. R. R. Buckley in "The Shakespeare Revival," "it must not be thought that scholarship in any way is underrated. At the same time, the Stratford movement, though having behind it the steadying power of scholarship, is above all things popular.

"Shakespeare is important to us not because he was a unique Englishman, but because he is the typical Englishman. His reverence for custom and pomp, his talk about love and wine, the fact that he regarded Falstaff as funny and Hamlet as tragic—in a word, his easy acceptance of authority, coupled with occasional outbursts of emotion, are English to a degree. Take Gonzalo in 'The Tempest.' Has not Gonzalo the English attitude to Utopias and Socialism? He begins with a fine scheme and then is gently laughed out of it, being ruled by his betters, though in some little danger from Caliban. If Shakespeare intended this play to be his vision of a world beautiful, a paradise regained, he never forgoes the Englishman's luxury of laughing at ideals. Shakespeare then is the reality of which John Bull was but a caricature. Only once have I seen a typical John Bull. It was in the lounge of an hotel. A thick-set, honest, rude, and podgy person came in, stood like a screen before the fire, set his thumbs firmly in the armholes of his waistcoat, and gazed round at us with bovine stolidity. But, when he spoke, it was not to assure with needless reiteration that he would 'never be a slave.' He said a few words in very broken English, and told us that he was a Spaniard on his first visit to this country. In England there never was, nor ever can be, that strange phantom, that over-solid ghost known as John Bull. I labour this point because, when one talks of a national movement in art, a chorus of critical ravens deplore the tendency, believing that unless the Briton become a cosmopolitan he will remain 'insular.' Shakespeare, and other people who live on islands, develop individualities. Some day we may come across the John Bull of our caricatures without having to go to Spain for him.

"Mr. Ernest Newman, one of our best musical critics, challenged his opponents in the Folk Movement to set down on paper a description of the typical Englishman. Shakespeare was too clever and John Bull too stupid to use as an illustration. Mr. Newman being the cleverest of the anti-nationalists, I gave him a definition of the Englishman. I repeat it here, because nothing could do more harm to the Stratford Movement than to convey the idea that we wish to foster a local type. The English are a mixture of many races, pure in one respect. We are Indo-Europeans, and are kindred of the Celtic, Teutonic, and Indian stock.

"Emerson wrote that the Englishman was the mud of all the races—that is to say, the mixed soil of Europe, piled up by the avalanche of invasion, silted by the rivers of time. To this day, the fair hair and blue eyes of Scarborough and Whitby fishermen make one remember the Vikings. Nor need I remind a musical critic that the word Elgar bespeaks Norse descent, and that in the music of Olaf and of British Caractacus that blood cries aloud. The Norman invasion did not dominate the English type, but was absorbed. Who knows whether the *entente cordiale* did not begin at Senlac? And not only have armed invaders fought their way into the family circle, but each county has moulded its type and its dialect, throwing up defences against the common enemy, Cosmopolitanism. And when I walk along a London street, seeing Parsees, Kaffirs, Frenchmen, Jews, Germans, and Spaniards, London does not seem less English. These barriers of race are everywhere in evidence. Each face flies its own flag.

"Mr. Newman held that all this talk about nationality and race feeling was a pose, that Reason, the sharp-tongued goddess, had broken down these sentimental barriers. When Shakespeare drew Shylock he showed his race feeling. Though Shylock is the hero of the work, no Jew would have pictured him as did Shakespeare. Though I have several good friends among the Jews, Reason has never shown me that I am a Jew. But when Shakespeare created Othello it was a very different matter. The character is drawn as an Englishman, and only colour marks the difference. The cleverest critic cannot acquit Shakespeare of the natural race feelings common to all men.

"'Reason is of all countries,' says La Bruyère. But if all countries were one, Reason would have less opportunity for varied development. True, nations depend upon each other for new phases of thought and new expressions of art. We love Wagner none the less because his art sprang from the soul of a people and was based on folk-tales. But here is the flaw: 'Our good friends the nationalists and the folk-song enthusiasts always seem to me to come to grief here. Before we begin to found a "national school," let us at least agree as to what the national characteristics are.' The critic wants to find out first, by reason and science, what is 'national.' The answer lies on our breakfast tables, in the form of eggs and bacon or newspapers. The food of the English, French, and German replies to a question which abstract reason stammers over. The fiction of England, like our drama, cannot be mistaken. At the same time the English race derives from so many sources that it is difficult to find half-a-dozen main characteristics. Admittedly we are insular—some one said that the Channel was wider than the Atlantic. And this also is true of the North Sea. The English universities, public schools, and games such as Rugby football, are distinctive. The independence that will not bow to militarism, and the public opinion that bars the way to revolution, are at once English. The modesty of the Englishman, who is content for his island (or rather peninsula) to be a centre of self-governing colonies rather than a dominator of servile States, is remarkable, especially as the land was once a Roman colony."

Through the kindness of Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd., the Royal Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, was placed at the service of the Anglo-Scandinavian Society on Wednesday last for a matinée in aid of the Antarctic Disaster Fund. Several members of the "Proud Maisie" company, Mr. Graham Moffat and Mr. E. J. Rogers, and the Lyceum Theatre orchestra contributed dramatic and musical selections to the programme. Mr. Rohan Clensy, who acts so admirably as Prince Charlie in "Proud Maisie," gave a violin solo, "Czardas," with so much expression and technical power that loud demands for an encore came from the audience. Mr. Vernon Steel and Miss Laura Cowie appeared in the Balcony scene from "Romeo and Juliet," Miss Cowie creating a favourable impression by her acting, for the first time, the part of Juliet. Miss Ethel Tueon sang with great effect "Songs of Old London"; and Mr. Graham Moffat stirred the audi- [illegible] recitation of an episode from Ian [illegible]ren's "The Days of Auld Lang Syne." Ib- [illegible] Doll's House," played by a number of [illegible]local amateurs, completed the pro- [illegible]cial credit being due to Miss Madge [illegible]ished impersonation of the trying [illegible]ner. Miss Craigie showed in her [illegible]nd her transition from high [illegible]athos the advantage which [illegible] of training at Sir Her-

[illegible]orwarded to any six stamps.

"THE MORMON AND HIS WIVES."

A Melodrama in four acts, by H. F. Housden, Produced for the First Time in London at the Elephant and Castle Theatre on Monday, Feb. 24.

The Rev. Dudley Wade	Oswald Cray
Josiah Beamish	Clifton Earle
Silas Mellish	William H. Burton
Michael Maloney	Ernest A. Duval
Jerry Ackroyd	Bert H. Reynolds
Jasper Weirdale	Harold Stevens
Zacariah Papp	Leslie Howard
Gawkins	Leonard H. Rooke
P.C. Skinner	G. W. Wright
Osprey	Chas. A. Chandler
White Hawk	Charles Fields
Great Leap	By Himself
Fleet Deer	By Himself
Fearless Fox	By Himself
Mighty Moon	By Himself
Sharp Spear	By Himself
Great Bull	By Himself
Scalp Hunter	By Himself
Mrs. Weirdale	Helen Lowther
Rosie May	Pattie Dene
Julia Beamish	Aimee Grattan Clyndes
Silver Bell	Mamie Reindeer
Nellie Weirdale	Sybil Hare

Originally produced at the Grand Junction Theatre, Manchester, in June last, Mr. Housden's successful melodrama is paying its first visit to the Metropolis this week. Most of the melodramas of to-day possess such a disappointing sameness that it is pleasing to find one, at least, that, breaking from the stereotyped, can achieve success by the very originality of its story and the way that that story is told.

Mr. H. F. Housden deals in a masterful manner with the spread of Mormonism, especially in relation to its influence in the village of Weatherfoot, in Lancashire. Nellie Weirdale, a mill hand, is heiress to a sum of fifty thousand pounds, accumulated out of the misfortunes of a father who was drowned at sea. She has all the necessary virtues, and is loved by the village parson, the Rev Dudley Wade. But the insidious influence of the Mormons is at work, and Nellie fancies herself not only in love wih the prospect of Utah, but with its Mormon advocate, Josiah Beamish.

Before the first act is over Nellie has refused the parson, accepted the Mormon, and is prepared to abscond with the latter to Utah. But at a critical moment the Rev. Dudley Wade reappears, and, after a scene in which Beamish is exposed, Nellie comes to her senses, accepts the parson, and thankfully sees the Mormon sent about his business. His business, however, now turns out to be the kidnapping of Nellie while the parson's back is turned; and this is successfully accomplished. She is taken to Salt Lake City, and her "marriage" to Beamish is arranged. Fortunately, help is forthcoming. Michael Maloney, a comic butcher of Weatherfoot, is the first to arrive, followed swiftly by the Rev. Dudley Wade himself. The Britishers are captured and handed over to an Indian tribe for punishment upon a trumped-up charge. However, they weather this and many other thrilling experiences safely, and eventually return to England, where the general happiness of the village of Weatherfoot, and the parson and Nellie in particular, is established.

Thanks considerably to the forcible and sincere acting of Mr. Oswald Cray as the Rev. Dudley Wade, "The Mormon and His Wives" proves a most engrossing play, and an effective and timely warning against the Mormon evil. It is, indeed, the simple sincerity of the manly parson that frequently tones down a few improbabilities that might otherwise seriously lessen the emphasis of Mr. Housden's tirade. Mr. Cray throughout is splendid, and it is doubtful if a more popular hero has visited the South London house for some considerable time.

Miss Sybil Hare as Nellie Weirdale plays with sympathy and touching simplicity, whilst much credit is due to Mr. Clifton Earle and Mr. Willitm H. Burton, who, as the two Mormons, Josiah Beamish and Silas Mellish, both served the author's purpose to the fullest extent. The other characters in a large cast were, without exception, admirably sustained.

BOY ACTORS IN THE PAST.

Professor J. Arbuthnot Nairn read a paper on the history of boy actors under the Tudors and Stuarts at a meeting of the Society of Literature on Wednesday afternoon. He said boy actors attained, for a time at least, such eminence as to rival the men players, including the company of which Shakespeare was a member. The boy companies fell into two main divisions—(1) choir boys, and (2) boys attending certain public schools. The choir boys belonged to the Chapel Royal (whence the title, "Children of the Chapel Royal"), St. Paul's Cathedral, or the Royal Chapter at Windsor. The schoolboys belonged to Eton, Westminster, or Merchant Taylors'.

The chief function of the boys in the choirs named above was to sing in divine service before the King or Queen and the Court, but the custom gradually grew up of using these children for the secular entertainment of the Court, by the presentation of pageants, masques, and plays. When this custom began was uncertain; it was earlier than the accession of Elizabeth, but it received a great stimulus from her love of the drama, and the period of greatest importance of the boy-companies lay within her reign.

Many leading dramatists wrote for the boy actors: Ben Jonson, Beaumont, Fletcher, Marston, Middleton, Dekker, Webster, and Chapman. Music and singing played a large part in their entertainment, and so attractive were their performances that they became a serious rival to the men-actors in the Globe, Fortune, and other theatres. After Elizabeth's death the Children of the Chapel were reorganised; and, under various titles, such as the Children of the Queen's Revels, continued to act through the reign of James I. and in that of Charles I., until 1626.

Whether the character of any of Shakespeare's women suggested that the dramatist was intentionally writing for a boy was doubtful, Rosalind was, perhaps, a case in point, but Constance, Miranda, Olivia, Cleopatra, and Lady Macbeth were clear cases of the contrary. It was not till the time of the Restoration that women were employed as actresses in England. The last boy-actor to appear in female parts was Francis Kynaston, of whom it is related that King Charles II., coming earlier than usual to the play, was kept waiting, and, becoming impatient, asked why the play did not begin. He was informed that the Queen (Kynaston) was, unfortunately, not yet shaven.

The pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, "The House That Jack Built," concluded on Saturday after a most successful run of eleven weeks. The house was crowded, and the audience most enthusiastic. The conductor was kept busy all the evening handing over bouquets and presents for the various principals, among which were a handsome tantalus for Billy Merson, a dressing-case for Fred Barnes, a silver cake basket for Miss Ida Valti, a walking-stick for Mr. Sydney Black, and numerous other gifts in parcels of all shapes and sizes for the others. Mr. Alfred Carpenter, the conductor, received a suit case, and Mr. Harry F. Ashton, the manager at the Royal, a set of gold studs and sleeve links, and a crocodile leather cigar-case from Sydney Russell's Eight Russell Girls. The floral gifts during the evening were innumerable.

PASSION PLAY IMPRESSIONS.

The story of the Passion Play at Ober-Ammergau is too well known to need repetition (says a correspondent of the "Yorkshire Post"). To the simple people of the village it has been given for now close on three centuries to set forth in their own persons the events of that sublime week which realised the fulfilment of the Divine promise of the redemption of humanity. To them it has been given every ten years, to illustrate the Lord's last days on earth—His trial, His death upon the Cross, His resurrection, and His ascension. This entails much self-sacrifice, but it is esteemed by the villagers a great privilege to be allowed to take part in these representations. It was indeed last year "good to be here." Those who came to scoff went away with softened hearts and quickened spiritual desires. Those who believed found their faith strengthened. I only had the misfortune to meet one or two of those peculiar folk who think that those who agree with them can alone be saved. Here the true believer, whatever his creed or doctrine, realises the full meaning of the prayer, "God be merciful to me, a sinner," and here may be found the loving answer. In the hush of the woods, in the features of the beautiful mountains bathed in the golden light of the setting September sun, the great message to humanity may be read. The calm is indescribable. A pretty old madrigal can perhaps best express it:—

There is a jewel that no Indian mine can buy,
No mimic art can counterfeit,
It makes men rich in greatest poverty,
Makes water wine, turns wooden spoons to gold,
The homely whistle to sweet music's strain,
Seldom it comes, to few, from Heaven sent,
That much in little, all in naught content.

The effect of the play is writ large on the faces of men, women, and little children. The Venerable Dean of York, watching some slides illustrating the scenes of the Great Story, said, "I have never seen such noble-looking men and women, so cultured, so refined. Surely they must be very exceptional people. Where could you find in England such a community?" One who witnessed the play itself says she is more than ever convinced that such powers are inherited. This beautiful summer Nature has not been so productive as in the cold and wet of last year. The crops have not been so abundant; the flowers have been scorched in the bud. The people say they prefer the wet and cold for their performance. The intense heat and the blazing sun would have been more trying. With regard to finance, the result of the last reproduction is said to be completely satisfactory. Most mortgages are paid off; charities have received further endowment; the much-needed orphanage and kindergarten will be established; and the community have sent a thank-offering to the English chaplain at Munich of 1,000 marks—£50—towards the completion of the English church there. The genial reply to all queries—"All goes well, we are quite satisfied," gives one a thrill of comfort, especially if one has just left the unrest of poor England. These people work early and late uncomplainingly, and live comfortably on less than would satisfy the unskilled labourer in England. There is no waste and no loafing here. Moreover, in a quiet, dignified way they hold their own. They give and accept friendship; they do not seek or need patronage. It is pleasant to see them, the day's work done, sitting outside their houses—father, mother, and children, and sometimes the grandparents or a special friend. The children are very pretty and well brought up, with the look in their young faces which is so distinctly noticeable in their parents. Many a little boy with clasped hands will pray before a wayside shrine or a feldkreuz, "Dear Jesus, make me good, and when I am a man let me be Christus." And little maidens in the privacy of home will ask for the rôle of the Virgin Mother. Each Sunday and on feast days in the parish church, from 8 to 10 a.m., throngs of devout worshippers—men and women—fill every available place. Many are content to stand. At the early celebration, 6.30, the church is well filled. Then, after church, all go out for long, happy days in the woods and on the hills, finding there, perhaps, even closer communion with the great Giver of all good. After taking its part in the church's choral service the band plays in the village from 11 till 12. Such is the life of the people on whom much comment was made last year, about whom accounts of interviews that never took place were given, who were charged with extortion, and to whom was applied the language of exaggeration and falsehood in many newspapers. The people are not spoilt, and they themselves have realised what efforts have been made to coin money out of their great decennial attraction, in too many cases successfully. The people's lives, like the clear Ammer stream that ripples through their lovely valley, have not been contaminated.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday Evening, Feb. 24, the Drama, Entitled "A WARNING TO WOMEN."

Mr. C. Watson Mill has written a drama the story of which contains many exciting scenes and thrilling situations. Miss Mabel Lowe has brought together a company under the personal direction of Mr. Beresford Whitcomb, the members of which are mainly identified with hard dramatic work. The full cast includes no fewer than twenty-four names. Miss Mabel Lowe appears in the arduous part of Moira Kennion, eldest daughter of Squire Kennion, and her impersonation is one of marked ability. Shaun, a wandering minstrel, is portrayed by Mr. Ernest Batley, and is a true likeness of the big-hearted Irish boy. Mr. Batley carries about with him the atmosphere that pervades the Green Isle. The same remark can be justly applied to Mr. Phillip Royal, who plays the part of Father Wallace. He looks like an Irish priest, and acts as one, whilst the soft brogue of "His Riverence" is charmingly like the real thing. Mr. Jack Denton is very amiable and sprightly as the young sprig of the aristocracy, Lord Eversleigh, and whether he is desperate in his love-making or pathetic in his desire to help, his lordship is always at least lovable. An interesting character is Myles O'Moore, a little crippled lad in the village of Castle Manor, tenderly played by Miss Amy Chambers. Mr. Jackson Hayes makes Squire Kennion stand out with refined dignity, and as Fergus M'Naughton Mr. Austin Melrose gives a native touch showing the susceptibilities of a young Irish squire. But among the crowd of parts, that essayed by Mr. Beresford Whitcomb is the most trying and difficult, because Dr. Marcus Dread, the Stranger, is the one person who is necessary for the providing of the element of evil in a drama which accounts for a lot of good. As a villain, Mr. Whitcomb is par excellence one of the best, and his end, as the result of a nerve-racking fight with the hero in Molly's Cottage, furnishes in the artistic sense a very fine scene. The company all round is a capable one, and the mounting of the piece excellent. The management of the Shakespeare is in the hands of Mr. Bernard Lawrence Edwards, and the orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Leon Jesse.

To avoid misunderstanding or confusion, Messrs. Poole wish to point out to proprietors, managers, and agents that Aberaman and Aberdare are practically the same town from a professional standpoint, as they are only one mile apart, and that the Grand Theatre, Aberaman, is run on first-class lines and equipped for the best productions.

THEATRICAL LAW.

At the Marylebone County Court, on Thursday, before Sir W. Selfe, Harrison Edwards, known as the London Concert Direction Co., of Edgware-road, concert agent, was sued for five guineas by Sidney Albert Smith, Brompton-road, Harringay, N., musician.

Mr. W. Orr, counsel for the plaintiff, said the defendant formerly lived at Maida Vale, and was still advertising for musicians for West-End concerts. In 1911 plaintiff answered the advertisement, and eventually played before defendant and paid an audition fee of 2s. 6d. Owing to defendant's promises of so many engagements, plaintiff decided to continue his studies for another year, and in August, 1912, again called on Edwards, who said he was to appear at the next West-End ballad concert, at the Portman Rooms. He also told Smith that he would have two or three engagements a week, and the fees would never be less than a guinea. Smith signed an agreement and paid a fee of five guineas to Edwards. On Sept. 16 Smith played at the West-End ballad concert. Anyone could go in on payment of 1s., and it was more or less a "faked" concert.

Edwards: I very much object to that statement.

Counsel, continuing, said the plaintiff heard of no engagements, and so on Oct. 8 called on defendant, and he gave him an engagement to play at another of these concerts, and paid him a guinea. There were thirty-two items on this programme, and as defendant went away in the middle there was considerable chaos, and the performers went on as they could. A month later, hearing nothing from the defendant, Smith wrote again, and in reply defendant said that "he was a trifle greedy." No other engagements were offered, and so proceedings were taken to recover the five guineas.

Plaintiff bore out his counsel's statement. He said he had studied the violin at the Guildhall School of Music under Professor Walker. Witness complained to Edwards about the artistic nature of the programme, and also about the inefficient accompanist. Edwards was very pleased with his playing.

Defendant said that he was not a concert agent, but a manager. His West-End ballad concerts had been favourably noticed and were well known. Some well-known artistes had appeared for him. If Smith had not become so hostile witness would have engaged him at other concerts.

His Honour gave judgment for plaintiff for three guineas and costs.

PIONEER PLAYERS' BALL.

Miss Ellen Terry, president of the Pioneer Players, enthroned on a chair decked with daffodils, and attired as Mistress Page in "The Merry Wives of Windsor," presided at their mi-carême ball on Thursday night. Her daughter, Miss Edith Craig, wore a curious garment, principally composed of sacking, designed by her brother, Mr. Gordon Craig. Miss Olive Terry (Mrs. Charles Chaplin) was attired as Rosalind in a doublet and hose of russet-brown; Miss Cicely Hamilton impersonated "George Eliot," wearing an original dress of the early Victorian days, with its stone-faced folds of blue-striped silk spreading wide over a crinoline, with much old lace for the bodice and a cap with lace lappets. Another well-known dramatist, Miss Christopher St. John, was a Watteau Pierrot, Miss Regina Lawrence being a harlequin in peg-top trousers of orange, white, and black lozenges. Miss Pamela Smith, who has recently illustrated the little "Book of the Russian Ballet," written by Miss Ellen Terry, wore the dress of the hunch-backed clown in "Sumûrun"; Mrs. Saba Raleigh was dressed as a Silver Djin; Miss Ellen O'Malley was Jane Austin's heroine "Emma"; and Miss Amiée Lowther was a Pierrot. Prizes were given for the most correct fancy costumes, the first prize being a classic chaplet of golden laurels, and autographed copies of Miss Terry's "Story of My Life," and "The Russian Ballett," were the second and third prizes. There was also a competition for "one-step" and "Boston" dances, for which the best prize was a valuable necklace of topazes.

Among the many people present were: Miss Decima Moore, Miss Gertie Millar, Miss Lillian Braithwaite, Miss Margaret Yarde (who was attired as a charwoman), Mr. Herbert Norris, Mr. Norman Trevor, Mr. Joseph Coyne, Mr. Eric Loder (Miss Gabrielle Ray's husband), Miss Winifred Mayo, and Miss Pamela Fitzgerald.

Mr. Alexander Burns Haigh Brown, of 149, Queen's-road, Battersea, died on the 15th ult. at the age of fifty-five. The deceased was Troop Sergeant-Major of the 15th (the King's) Hussars. He joined the regiment at the age of fourteen, and by assiduous attention to duties he gradually rose in the ranks. In 1878 he saw active service in Afghanistan, and in 1881 he took part in the Majuba campaign. Ten years later when he left the service he became a recruiting sergeant at St. George's Barracks, where he remained for eighteen months before securing an appointment as valet to Mr. (now Sir George) Alexander at St. James's Theatre. Profiting by this position, he was often able to undertake a small part in plays. He was Blinkler, the innkeeper, in "The Masqueraders." In 1908 he appeared before the King in a command performance of "Builders of Bridges" at Sandringham. He had also taken part in "The Prisoner of Zenda" and in "Much Ado About Nothing." Sir George Alexander was exceedingly sorry to lose Mr. Brown's services last year, when ill-health caused his retirement. Mr. Brown highly respected Sir George and spoke of him just before he died.

The funeral took place on Thursday, the 20th ult. Among those who were at the grave-side were: Mr. C. T. Helmsley (manager at St. James's Theatre), Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds (stage-manager), Mr. A. E. Arnold (box-manager), Mr. D. W. Whittaker (treasurer), Mr. Ivory, Mr. Moore, Mr. A. P. Horne (secretary), and Mr. W. G. Danter (hon. secretary of the 15th, The King's, Hussars Old Comrades Association). A large number of the late Mr. Brown's comrades were also present at Morden Cemetery, where the interment took place. The last portion of the burial service was most impressive. All the non-commissioned officers, who were under the command of Regimental Sergeant-major T. Ellicock, paraded at the grave-side and stood with heads lowered as a trumpeter of the 15th sounded the "Last Post." Among the wreaths were two handsome ones from the front of the house and the stage staff at St. James's Theatre.

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SPORTING NOTES.

By SANTOI.

There is no fear of an American invasion at Aintree after Sandown on Friday. Highbridge effectually disposed of his chance in the National when, in the Trial Steeplechase, he failed to stay more than three miles, and finished a thoroughly tired horse. Evidently he has not progressed since the Sandown meeting early in the month, for his display against Glen Heston then was much better than this one.

But if Highbridge ran poorly, Thowl Pin did worse. His running was execrable, and on the form he has not a 1,000 to 1 chance for the National. Presumably there has been some sound reason for his long retirement since Liverpool in November, when a capital show gained him innumerable admirers, and he looked one of the most promising 'chasers in the country. If anything has been amiss with him, he has not properly shaken it off yet, and there is no time now in which to recover lost form. Not a solitary one of the National horses that took part in the Sandown race escaped a blunder or mistake of some sort, and altogether the field was pretty moderate. Why, a Carsey or one of those natural leppers would have smothered the lot on any terms. Even the winner, General Fox, blundered when he was holding a six lengths lead about six furlongs from home, and it was only after a terrific race that he managed to keep his head in front of Covertcoat. Covertcoat pecked at one the obstacles in the straight, or he would have beaten him.

The process of elimination is gradually reducing the National to a minimum. Jerry M started it; Axle Pin was the next to go, and now we can put out Highbridge, Thowl Pin, and Covertcoat, and if, as is stated, this one is better than Flaxseed, Sir Charles Assheton Smith's chance of finding an efficient substitute for Jerry M in his stable is remote indeed.

Hartigan is carrying all before him. He trained both General Fox and Domino, who won the leading cross-country events on Thursday. With Rathnally, Bloodstone, and Jacobus in the stable, he holds a very strong hand in the National. Uncertainty, however, surrounds most of the horses. It is not yet known how these three will relish the change of quarters, especially the excitable Rathnally. Blowpipe, it is gratifying to learn, is all right again, and we shall see him out at Cheltenham the week after next in the National Hunt Handicap Steeplechase.

The form of the maiden hurdlers was never in a worse tangle. Form rarely works out well at Windsor, either on the flat or over "sticks," but really some of the results at Windsor this week were too startling to pass without comment. Bill Bang, for example, who beat Tweedledum, Willaura, and other in a canter for the Maiden Hurdle, has been amongst the "also rans" and many lengths behind Tweedledum at Kempton a few days earlier. In view of recent events, and the general activity of the stewards lately, one might have expected some official notice of this sharp difference in running. Possibly some reasonable explanation of it exists, but it would have been interesting to hear it. Then Blind Hookey, who won the Hurdle Handicap in runaway style, had run unplaced in Glazebrook's race at Kempton on the previous Saturday. On that occasion, however, the stewards interrogated Piggott on the running of the horse.

A pleasant feature of the Windsor sport was old Fetlar's Pride's victory. Pluck and stamina are admirable qualities, and the old horse possesses both. He was miles behind two fences from home, and Morgan thought of turning it up, but the horse went on, and, catching Abbott's Choice on the flat, literally wore him down. He was terribly distressed afterwards, and exhibited all the evidence of a very punishing race. Windsor happens to be Fetlar's Pride's favourite course. He has won several races there. It is to be hoped that his success will break the spell of ill-luck from which Law's little stable has been suffering this winter.

The Lincolnshire Handicap is still a dead letter, though doubtless we shall soon have some trials and a little really genuine betting on the race. Uncle Pat is said to be going great guns at Newmarket. He ought to be fit next month, for he has been hard at if for more than six weeks.

Wonderful old Submit paid a further tribute to his owner's skill as a horse doctor when he well trounced Goldwin, Montreal, and the others in the Selling Hurdle at Sandown. No other man in the kingdom could have resuscitated the old Cesarewitch winner as Coleman has done. Every imaginable operation has been played off on the old fellow's legs at one time or another. After every race something has to be patched up, but Coleman does it effectually, for each time the horse runs he goes one better. Submit needs a lot of work, and that is where the trouble lies, for there is danger of a complete breakdown in every stride he takes. One can imagine the feelings of his owner when the horse is given a spin. Mr. Ussher, who rode him on Thursday, took him to the front from the start. Everybody was waiting for him to break down, and the bookmakers fielded for that contingency, and never tired of laying him in running. One particularly obstinate layer shouted "Tens Submit" even after a mile had been covered, and while he was a length in front of his nearest rival. Up to the last hurdle they offered "fours." Montreal got to him there, but nothing had a chance with him on the flat, and he was leaving them again as they passed the post. He would be useless to anyone but his owner, and therefore there was very little bidding at the subsequent auction.

To-day the Imperial Cup is by far the most interesting hurdle race we have had this season. Braxted is highly fancied, and he will go close. Gael Rhu is expected to win, and there are others equally fancied. I shall, however, declare for

WAR DANCE and GAEL RHU,

both to be backed each way. Quinton will about win the Grand Military Handicap; Addinstown's Prize the Open Hurdle; Glenvictor the Tally-Ho Steeplechase; and Good Chap the United Service Steeplechase.

At Derby on Monday Gale II. should win the Derbyshire Steeplechase; Authority has a chance in the Friary Hurdle; The Mink could win the Elvaston Steeplechase; and Corncob the Osmaston Hurdle. On Tuesday, Powder and Shot ought to take the Doveridge Hurdle; Royal Collar is worth special attention in the Devonshire Hurdle; Silver Goblets ran well enough in a handicap at Windsor for the Four-Year-Old Hurdle; and Ally Sloper has only to run to win the Shipley Hall Steeplechase.

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SPECIALS FROM THE PROVINCES.

"HER SIDE OF THE HOUSE."

A New Comedy, in Three Acts, by Mr. Lechmere Worrell and Miss Atte Hall, Produced by Miss Rosina Filippi (for Sir Joseph Beecham) at the Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, on Monday, Feb. 24.

Lord Arlington .....Mr. Godfrey Tearle
Duke of Vernay .....Mr. Spencer Trevor
Lord Gerald Cholmley ....Mr. Harold Deacon
Guy Errington .....Mr. Philip Anthony
Mons Teste .....Mr. Alfred Toose
Simpson .....Mr. John Probert
Phillips .....Mr. Henry Wynn
Summers .....Mr. C. L. Stuart
Mr. Perkins .....Mr. Richard Carfax
Cecile .....Miss Dulce Musgrave
Mme. De Brienne .....Miss Helen Ferrers
Peggy Tresyllian .....Miss Helen Verrall
Lady Heathcote .....Miss Jay Chatwyn
Victorine .....Miss Jane Cooper
Marie .....Miss Manora Thew

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

There is nothing particularly new in the plot of this play, which verges not infrequently on farce and occasionally on melodrama. The marriage de convenance has often been the theme of the playwright, but the plot here is by no means impossible. An impecunious nobleman, Lord Arlington (who rejoices in the nickname of Chow-Chow), with a past he would fain amend, has been married to an artless, but decidedly artful ingénue, Cecile, by the influence—or rather command—of the latter's grandmother, an imperious old dame of a past French régime, Mme. De Brienne. The young nobleman requires wealth, the grandmother rank and marriage as a fitting conclusion to the careful training she has administered to the young lady. So that, all parties being satisfied, it might be imagined that the young couple would agree to that sort of mutual accommodation which in such marriages often is successful. However, this is not to be, for Cecile, ingénue though she is, has ideas of her own, and before even changing her wedding dress declines to go on the usual honeymoon, to the dismay of friends and relations and husband alike. She likewise, in an agreeable interview, informs that embarrassed gentleman that she has overheard much concerning his somewhat volcanic past and enters on a frank explanation—she has married him to gain freedom from her grandmother's restraint, while he has desired her wealth. This being so, she will live on her side of the house and he on his, an arrangement which suggests that she is not quite so ingenuous as she would appear.

In the second act we meet them thus experimenting at their house in London, whither they have repaired immediately after the marriage ceremony, and where their method of communication on matters matrimonial is through their respective servants. Lady Cecile being of an enquiring mind here (in a pretty scene), requires her unhappy spouse to demonstrate how he would make love, that she may learn the difference between it and passion. This is a rather unnecessary proceeding, it would appear, as Lord Gerald, who interrupts them, has obviously given her several lessons already, a circumstance which—in conjunction with a past, only hinted at but evidently shady—occasions him to be regarded with positive dislike by Mme. De Brienne, and Lord Arlington's uncle, the Duke of Vernay, an irascible old gentleman. The constant presence of his lordship and the scheming and elegant, if somewhat melodramatic, Lady Heathcote, whose past has not been wholly unconnected with Lord Arlington's, and whose designs include a future with him in Paris and elsewhere, supply the necessary material for the pursuit of Cecile's exhaustive investigation in the science of love. In the third act, having found herself dissatisfied with Gerald's lovemaking abilities, and perhaps of the purity of his designs, Cecile retires to her own side of the house, from whence, however, she discovers herself shut out through a loving little scheme of the really delightful Mme. De Brienne. Fearful of taking refuge on her husband's side she conceals herself in the hall, now in darkness, and there overhears (she has a talent for that sort of thing) sufficient to prove that Arlington though agreeing to fly with Lady Heathcote, really loves her and is leaving only to give her back her freedom. She comes to the conclusion that he is not a bad sort, and that on the whole she prefers to keep him as a husband, and the curtain descends on her rather hesitating and not a little frightened approach to his side of the house.

The authors are to be congratulated on having succeeded in making a pretty play on so slight a foundation but with all their ability it is still much too long for its strength; the second act is inclined to drag, and the third is occasionally tiresome. The dialogue is for the most part brilliant, and the play was beautifully dressed and admirably staged, and met with a cordial reception from a crowded house. The finished acting of every member of the company would have embellished a far less interesting play. Miss Helen Ferrers gave a delightful study of the imperious, dignified, yet kindly old grandmother, Mme. De Brienne, and looked lovely in two exquisite toilettes. Mr. Godfrey Tearle assumed the character of Lord Arlington with complete success, Mr. Spencer Trevor submitted an excellent presentment of the caustic old nobleman Duke of Vernay, Miss Dulce Musgrave was always charming as the sweet, tantalising Cecile, Lord Gerald Cholmley found an admirable representative in Mr. Harold Deacon, and Miss Jay Chatwyn played the scheming Lady Heathcote with eminent grace and distinction. Miss Jane Cooper was good as Victorine, Cecile's maid and foster sister; Mr. Alfred Toose acted well as Mons. Teste, a hairdresser; and other parts were capably filled.

"THE BURGLAR AND THE GIRL."

Comedietta, Produced at the Pavilion, Weymouth, on Monday, Feb. 24.

The Burglar .....Mr. George Marriott, jun.
The Girl .....Miss Ruth Dockray

A sparkling little playlet is presented in "The Burglar and the Girl." The scene is a country house at 2 a.m., and the Burglar enters through the French window. He is about to take some valuable jewels from the cabinet when suddenly the lights are switched on and a charming girl appears, holding him up at the point of a revolver. After telling him she has 'phoned for the police and intends to keep him there until they arrive, she reads him a lecture on his evil life, and on his promising to reform agrees to let him go. The Burglar pretends to be contrite, and, asking her to shake hands, obtains possession of the revolver. Nothing daunted, the Girl snatches at the bell-rope and swears that at the first movement from him she will rouse the house. The Burglar expresses admiration for her pluck, but says he is determined to have the jewels, and creeping up again to her presses the revolver to her head and forces her to drop the rope. After an outburst of tears she suddenly points to the window, and cries, "The police!" The Burglar falls into the trap and turns quickly to look, when the girl throws one arm tightly round his neck, and with the other hand presses a handkerchief, which she had previously chloroformed, to his nostrils, and he falls unconscious. She quickly dons travelling cloak and hat, which she has hidden behind the curtains, rifles the cabinet, and goes out through the window, with the parting remark, "Thanks for your assistance." The point is that the burglar thinks the lady is the daughter of the house, whereas she is herself a member of the housebreaking fraternity. The Girl is smartly played by Miss Ruth Dockray. Mr. George Marriott, jun., acts realistically as the Burglar.

"QUEEN TARA."

Tragedy, in Three Acts, by Darrell Figgis, Produced at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, by the Benson Dramatic Company on Tuesday, Feb. 25.

Julian .....Mr. Henry Herbert
Serge .....Mr. Horace Braham
Peter .....Mr. H. Pardoe Woodman
Anthony .....Mr. John Cairns
Stephen .....Mr. Charles Warburton
Lyof .....Mr. Basil Rathbone
Brabo .....Mr. Duncan Yarrow
Mark .....Mr. Basil Osborne
Hagen .....Mr. Edmund Sulley
First Soldier .....Mr. S. B. Bickmore
Second Soldier .....Mr. Frank Freeman
A Servant .....Mr. F. W. Denman
Tara .....Miss Gladys Vanderzee
Cathna .....Miss Brunhild Muller
A Page .....Miss Muriel Dawn

King Julian, the youthful monarch of Illyricum, had married Tara, a woman of no importance, a woman with a past, though he knew it not. When the curtain rises we see his Majesty seated on his throne conferring princely honours on his two brothers-in-law, who, through the Queen's connivance, he makes heirs to the throne. This sets the army and country in a ferment. The army mutinied, and the people rose in sympathy. In Act 2 we have a fine scene between Stephen, representing the army, and Prince Serge, a boasting bravado, whose contempt for the King's officers eventually is his undoing. In Act 3 things come to a crisis, and a plot is hatched in the Council Chamber to wipe out "the upstart family," but to spare the King, who, despite his many weaknesses, is still popular with the army and people. To the Royal chamber comes an alarm that Princes Serge and Peter are being attacked in their rooms. Julian instantly rushes for his weapons and buckles on his sword. Tara beseeches him not to go. "He is your brother," he reminds her. "I know, I know," she cries. "Do not leave me. It may be you go to your death." He flings her aside, and, fearless of death, dashes out. Then the assassins, two common soldiers muffled and masked, steal into the Queen's room—there is a scream, and all is over. Julian returns; he is distraught at the murder of Serge, and rushes in to comfort Tara, only to find her dead. And as he bemoans over her poor corpse one of the assassins leaps on him. Julian, heroic to the last, struggles gallantly, but is stabbed in the back by the other murderer. When the affrighted courtiers come they find the two dead bodies. Brabo and Mark, who have machined this bloody deed, rush in at the head of a shuffling multitude. Both are arrested. King, Queen, and Serge being dead Peter, once a nobody, now a prince by promulgation, is proclaimed the monarch.

Such is a brief outline of the plot, which seems founded on the horrible Servian assassination, when Queen Draga and King Alexander were foully done to death. The complex character of King Julian shone out in the able hands of Mr. Henry Herbert. He portrayed the well-meaning King, caught in the meshes of fate, with fine histrionic ability, and in the concluding scene was very fine indeed. Miss Gladys Vanderzee played the Queen with much artistic effect. The Queen is an adventuress daring and unscrupulous, and Miss Vanderzee realised the repulsiveness of the character with fidelity and force. There were many fine speeches for Mr. John Cairns (Anthony) and Mr. Charles Warburton (Stephen), both very sincere actors, who contributed valuably to the all-round success of the production. Mr. Horace Braham was delightful as the headstrong Serge, whilst his quiet, easy-going brother, Peter, had a fitting representative in Mr. H. Pardoe Woodman. The mounting of the various scenes (seven in all) showed much artistic taste. To Mr. Figgis (who was called before the curtain at the close) much praise is due, and he should feel proud of his first conscientious attempt at dramatic literature.

SHEFFIELD REPERTORY SEASON.

The production for the first time in Sheffield of Robert Louis Stevenson and W. Henley's drama, "Admiral Guinea," aroused considerable interest, and on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last week good audiences assembled at the Temperance Hall. The atmosphere of the play is strongly suggestive of the immortal "Treasure Island," and the melodrama of some parts was thrilling enough to keep the close attention of a transpontine audience. Of late years Mr. Orlando Barnett, the talented producer and stage-director of the Repertory season, has practically made the character of David Pew his own. Mr. Barnett's make-up was good, and his acting most realistic. Mr. Alfred Harding in the strong part of John Gaunt, alias Admiral Guinea, was excellent; and the Kit French of Mr. William Stack was a commendable performance. Miss Dora Dent was a pleasing and graceful representative of Arethusa Gaunt, and Mrs. Florence Hunter's Mrs. Drake was natural and full of character. "The Rose with a Thorn," by Bertha Graham, was the concluding piece. It is a charming Arcadian fantasy, and the scene—a wood in Sunland—was pretty and effective. Miss Daisy Race was a charming Pierette, Miss Glory Shannon made a delightful Mira, and Mr. Everard Vanderlip as Pierrot, and Mr. Julian D'Albie as Corin completed the cast.

An interesting "triple-bill" was given on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, comprising "A Natal Episode," by Schnitzler; "The Interior," Maeterlinck; and "The Convict on the Hearth," by Frederick Penn. For the concluding three nights this week "Cupid and the Styx" was announced.

HYMAN AND THE ARTS BALL.

Some of the most effective costumes at the Chelsea Arts Ball on Wednesday were made by John Hyman, of 29, Leicester-square, W. Amongst Mr. Hyman's best creations was the dress worn by Miss Petro, who represented the Wedding Glide, from "Hullo, Rag-time!" This dress was carried out in white and silver, with a silver and crystal petticoat. The satin tunic was edged with crystal, the silver top veiled with white ninon, and trimmed with orange blossoms and white heather. In the white satin bonnet was a tall ostrich feather and a sprig of orange blossoms. Another exquisite costume was that of Miss Alice Jobling as a Turkish lady. This was carried out in purple, showered with gold. The coat was of purple and blue shot silk, embroidered with gold and cerise. The sash was of the same material as the coat, and was trimmed with gold, while the headdress consisted of a silver band and shaded ninon.

Cleopatra was represented by Mrs. Peer Burton in one of Hyman's prettiest dresses, in pale green and embroidered with coloured flowers and silver. The Egyptian headdress of gold and green had a gold veil attached. Necklet and girdle of pearl work and snake armlets were worn. Other designs executed by John Hyman were Carmen, in red silk, black Spanish lace, and black velvet, trimmed with gold and paste; and an "Early Victorian lady," in white silk and pink roses, and delaine, trimmed with sapphires and pearls.

Performances of "Patience" will be given by the Epsom Operatic Society in the Public Hall, Epsom, on April 16, 17, 18, and 19.

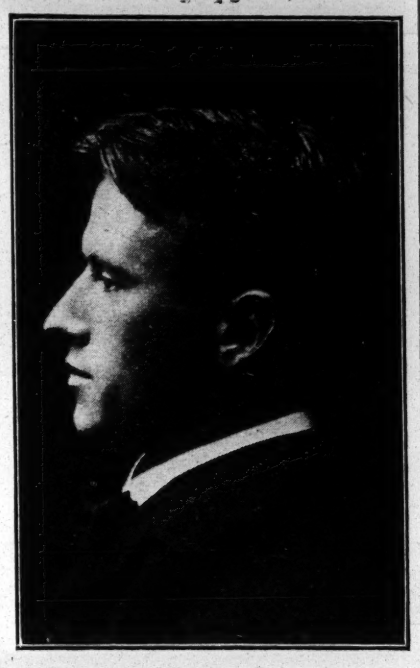
PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE.

When about seven years old Mr. Richard Henry Lace made his initial dramatic appearance at a private school as Gesler in "William Tell," for which he also invented the "trick apple" to be shot from the boy's head. At a subsequent private school performance he was chosen for a drunkard and another part, and in the former felt "quite—hic!—at home." At yet another school, after endeavouring to portray "a base menial," he became "immortal," for he then appeared as a ghost and also a headless man in "Blue Beard."

Having thus "lost his head" on the stage, Mr. Richard Henry Lace decided to walk on in Mr. Cyril Maude's "The School for Scandal" at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, twelve years ago. Following came a tour with "Proof" and "The Lady of Lyons," then parts in "My Daughter-in-Law," "The Squire," "Uncles and Aunts," and "Forget-me-Not" on the south coast, and characters in "Secrets ——— ———," "Jim, the Penman," "The Three Musketeers," "Tom, Dick and Harry," "East Lynne," "Lord and Lady Algy," and "Oh, Susannah!"

Joining Mr. Edmund Tearle he sustained during several years a tremendous round of parts, ultimately reaching principal comedy, including Launcelot Gobbo, Polonius with First Gravedigger, and Pistol with Host. Later a holiday in Douglas took the form of playing Sam Gerridge in "Caste" in the open air. After a few weeks with Mr. George Munroe's répertoire he rejoined Mr. Tearle for "Julius Cæsar," &c., followed by Lieut. Archie and stage-management in Mr. Walter Howard's play "Second to None," and later was back once more with Mr. Tearle for Oscar Nielson and acting-management in "The Prodigal Son," succeeded by less serious work. Mr. Richard Henry Lace has a weakness for original character-comedy, and is author of "Modern Instances."



MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE.

F. R. BENSON COMPANY AT THE CORONET.

This is the final week of the month's season of Shakespearean répertoire by Mr. F. R. Benson and company at the cosy Notting Hill Gate Theatre. "The Taming of the Shrew" was given on Monday.

Mr. Benson fairly revels in the part of Petruchio, which suits him to a nicety, and which he has made peculiarly his own. The fantastic tricks, bombast and fury of this determined wooer are all most amusingly set forth. Without descending to farce, the fun yet waxes fast and furious in the kitchen scene, where Petruchio leaps over the table, and cooks, servants, and scullions all rush madly to and fro with baffling rapidity, and confusion grows more and more confounded. Though the gentleman of Verona, son of old Antonio, dominates all the scenes in which he appears, other parts are in many instances notably well played. Miss Dorothy Green is superb in her rage as "Katherine the curst," and her gradual transition to modest humility, under the whips and scourges of Petruchio's passion and contumely is convincingly illustrated. Miss Ethel McDowall does excellently well in the part of the fair Bianca. Mr. Murray Carrington is well suited in the part of Lucentio, and acts the lover very naturally and speaks his lines to perfection. Miss Marion Foreman as Hortensio's Widow sings "Should he upbraid" charmingly. Mr. William Calvert as Baptista, Mr. Rupert L. Conrick as Vincentio, Mr. Baliol Holloway as Gremio, Mr. Harry Caine as Grumio, and Mr. Frank Cochran as Biondella are the best of the others, and act well up to the Shakespearean standard of excellence expected of the members of Mr. Benson's companies.

Recently the employees of the Empire, Bury St. Edmunds, presented to Mr. S. Frank (the manager), on the occasion of his birthday, an address, etc., as a token of the esteem and regard in which he is held by them. The gift took the form of a handsome Gladstone bag, a box of cigars, and a framed illuminated address. A special gift of a silver-plated inkstand came from the lady cashier.

"Hannele" was performed at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Thursday, the 20th ult. Miss Lilian Jago as Hannele performed her task with commendable care and insight. She has a sweet, tuneful speaking voice, and has the gift of simplicity. Miss Nora Desmond both as Sister Martha and in the parts she filled in the dream was thorough and convincing. Mr. P. Murphy made a strenuous step-father. Much credit is also due to Mr. Sean Connolly as the doctor and Mr. Philip Guiry as the schoolmaster. The staging deserves a special word of praise, and reflected credit on the producer, Mr. Lennox Robinson. Appropriate music was played by a hidden orchestra, under the baton of Mr. Larchet, R.I.A.M.

Telephone Call Office.—For the convenience of advertisers and members of the amusement professions, a public telephone call office is installed at "The Era" offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

IN the hands of Managers and Artistes throughout the United Kingdom the first thing on Wednesday morning. The Early Bird. See next week's

WEDNESDAY ERA

for The "Spot" Light, full reports of New Sketches, &c., and many other items of interest to the Professional World.

MOTOR NOTES.

BY "COUNTRYMAN."

Over 103 Miles in One Hour on a 25 h.p. Talbot.

A marvellous performance, indeed, and one upon which Mr. Percy Lambert is to be congratulated. This is the Talbot's second attempt to accomplish the 100 miles in an hour, the first attempt failing just as the driver began to feel that the record was as good as made—a burst tyre when 97 miles had been covered in well within the limit time. However, good luck attended the plucky driver at his second attempt, and the distance of 103 miles 1470 yards was accomplished in the hour. A truly wonderful performance for a car of 25 h.p. The previous record for the hour was held by a 59.6 Lorraine-Dietrich, which did something over 97 miles in the hour, so that the Talbot has a margin of over six miles. The most extraordinary part about the whole thing is, in my mind, the small size of the engine, which is only 101.5 x 140 m.m. A year ago the best speed for an engine of this size was just over 87 miles per hour, and that for the flying half-mile only. Great credit is due to the designer, Mr. George W. A. Brown, for being the first engineer to realise what efficiency for engine dimensions really means, and also to Mr Frank Shorland for being the business brain behind the whole enterprise.

For the Lady Motorist.

There is no way that the motor-car exemplifies in a more marked degree the popularity and perfection to which it has arrived than in the fact that ladies, who seldom have any idea of mechanics or are fitted temperamentally to find the study an easy one, can, in a comparatively short time become skilful and successful drivers. This has been proved most conclusively during the past year or so, for the cars now owned and operated by ladies are many. A short time ago a woman driving a motor-car was regarded as a curiosity, but it is no extraordinary sight at the present time, and creates scarcely passing attention, as the number of lady drivers has so largely increased. Motoring has, from its earliest advent, proved a most fascinating pastime for the fair sex, and they are coming to understand more fully the mechanical features of the car, and are learning more of its capabilities and necessities.

The coming of the car has opened up new possibilities: the flexibility of speed, the exhilaration without physical exertion, and the distance that can be travelled, all conduce to the greatest fascination, and, whether one has been a lover of the horse or an enthusiastic cyclist, there is nothing to equal the motor-car if speed combined with a maximum of comfort is a desideratum. The lady who desires to develop into a successful driver must be possessed of cool and steady nerves; she must have a level head, courage, and determination, must be ever ready and calculative and quick of application should an emergency arise where instant action would be necessary. She who considers herself an expert motorist because she can handle the steering-wheel and understands the operation of the different levers, has only accomplished the rudimentary part, and has much to learn. She can never be too well informed regarding the car she drives, and should become thoroughly conversant with the intricacies of the motor and familiarise herself with its working features. The preliminary instructions would be learning to steer the car, the use of the throttle and ignition levers, the change-speed lever and the clutch pedal, and the immediate action of these parts upon the engine.

The lady motorist should educate her ear to the normal sound of the engine, and thus become able to discover, amid the humming of gears and throbbing of the motor, any wrong note indicative of trouble before it seriously affects the working of the vehicle. She must learn to regulate the speed and power of the engine according to the roads being travelled, and at all times have complete control of the car. A breakdown on the road will prove a most effective lesson, although a disagreeable one, but the really successful lady motorist is the one who makes a complete study of her car and guards as far as possible against troubles arising when driving. On a country road, inconveniently far from expert aid, she is wholly dependent on her mechanical knowledge to avoid delays, which are now fortunately very rare, and which, when they do occur, are, in the majority of cases, caused by quite simple troubles which could be easily overcome. When the motor stops on the road one of two things is most likely to be the cause—either the proper supply of fuel is lacking or the means for igniting the mixture have gone wrong. In the first instance the trouble is probably in the carburetter or with the fuel supply; in the second case it is the igniting system that requires attention. If, previous to the stop, there were weak explosions or a great deal of smoke in the exhaust, the indications are carburetter troubles. If missing of the explosions takes place the cause is probably to be found in the ignition system, although both missing and explosions in the silencer are also sometimes due to a poor mixture. One cause of ignition trouble is a short-circuited plug. If a certain cylinder is missing fire and the plug has been examined and cleaned and seems to spark well when the car is running on the level or down hill, but refuses to do duty when a hill is reached, it is an almost certain sign that the plug in that particular cylinder is short-circuiting, either from dirt or oil on the inside, or perhaps because it is cracked: the remedy is to change the plug for a new one. Soot on the surface of plugs often short-circuits them, permitting the current to pass through without forcing it to leap the spark-gap. Another thing that causes chagrin to the lady driver is to have the motor stop because the ignition is advanced too far while the motor is carrying a heavy load. Experiments with both the throttle and the ignition levers in different positions should be made until the best results under all conditions are obtained. The beginner is also very much humiliated to find the reason the car refuses to go is because the brakes are on. It is something very apt to occur with the novice, so that one should be careful to see that the brakes are off before attempting to start the car. Another important thing to observe is that the ignition lever is always set back before starting the engine. The beginner is very apt to suffer a sprained wrist, if not worse, from back-fire, unless this lesson is well learned.

On Saturday last the Mayor of Southport, on behalf of the donors, presented Mr. W. Simpson Cross, F.Z.S., with several tokens of esteem, on the conclusion of his management of the Empire Theatre, Southport, which has been under his control for the past four years. On behalf of some of the patrons and well-wishers in the town he was presented with a gold hunter watch, and as a companion gift Mr. Charles Hand donated a gold and platinum chain and gold match-box. A handsome silver chatelaine bag was also a thoughtful present for Mrs. Cross. The staff and artistes presented him with a solid gold cigar case, and the members of the R.A.O.B. "Volunteer" and George Curzon Lodges, of which Mr. Messenger is the W. Primo, gave him a silver-mounted pocket-book. There was likewise a solitaire scarf-pin from other admirers. Mr. Cross made a suitable acknowledgment, and, although the occasion of the presentation was the closing down of his management in Southport, he is assured of their heartiest support, should he venture again on the stormy world of vaudeville enterprise in this popular Lancashire resort.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Thursday, Feb. 20, Dr. Strauss's "Der Rosenkavalier" was produced with some changes in the cast. A very good representation was the result. Herr Schilling-Ziemssen, of Frankfort, made an excellent conductor, repressing all the strenuousness and revealing all the delicacy of the music, therefore the orchestra never overwhelmed the singers. A new version of the part of Octavian was given by Frl. Aline Sanden, who made the most of the character. She looked well, both as the maid and boy; her vocalisation was good, and she revealed intelligence in all ways. Frl. Hedy Tracema-Brugelmann well suggested the somewhat uninteresting character of the Princess, and was a striking picture, having due sense of the pathetic side, especially where she ruminates on her unpromising future. Herr Wiedermann well represented the plebeian Faninal, and Frl. Dux again made Sophie an attractive part. Herr Knupfer's study of Baron Ochs is a striking example of this artiste's ability. The remainder of the cast was unchanged. There was a good attendance.

After a lapse of four years Wagner's "Die Meistersinger" was given on Saturday evening, Feb. 22, at Covent Garden. The largest attendance that has been seen during this season testified their appreciation of German opera. The representation was somewhat unequal, however, but in the case of the Walther, in the person of Herr Walter Kirchhoff, a singer of a rare kind has been revealed. He made a very distinguished Knight, and he has a tenor voice of good and expressive quality. He seemed at times hardly in accord with the orchestral accompaniment, but he managed to give the "Preislied" with great refinement and expression. Frl. Claire Dux made a very attractive Eva in every way. The singing in the first act of Herr Walter Kirchhoff and Frl. Dux was admirable, as also their demeanour. The Hans Sachs of Herr Hermann Weil was weak in manner, making rather a tame part of the cobbler-poet and not altogether successful vocally. Herr Knupfer was the exact type of Pogner, singing and acting with conviction. Herr Hermann Gura's Beckmesser was a careful and not too humorous rendering, and altogether stands out as a distinguished embodiment of that personage, being consistently humorous. Frl. Bender-Schafer did not quite realise the part of Magdalene; on the other hand, Herr Schramm's David was a very creditable performance. There was a full chorus, and the final scene animated and most effective. In respect of tone the orchestra played well. The "Meistersinger" evidently gave great pleasure to the audience, who filled every part of the house, the great attraction of the evening being Herr Walter Kirchhoff's Walther, a newcomer who at once captivated his audience by his singing and handsome presence. Mr. Beecham conducted. Queen Alexandra, attended by the Countess of Gosford, Earl Howe, the Hon. Charlotte Knollys, the Hon. Violet Vivian, and Colonel Henry Streatfield occupied the Royal box, and King Manoel and the Marquis de Soveral were with the Marchioness of Ripon in the opposite box. Many other distinguished persons were observed in different parts of the house; it was a very brilliant gathering.

On Monday, Feb. 24, "Cléopâtre" was revived. Although it is not one of the most startling or thrilling of those produced, it is nevertheless dramatic and tragic, and works up to a good climax. The piece was presented with a perfection of detail and skill of vivid suggestion. Mme. Sophie Fedorova gave a very fine and realistic impersonation of the despair of Ta-hor at the loss of her lover, and terror with which she sees his end approaching, and finally her grief when she falls fainting over his dead body, was very touchingly expressed. M. Adolf Bolm also must be praised for his splendid miming as Cléopâtre's victim, Amoun. His dancing was very praiseworthy. Cléopâtre herself has little to do except look picturesque, and Mme. Nelidora quite succeeded in this. The ballet gives very little scope for the talents of Mme. Karsavina and M. Nijinsky, but their veil dance is a delightful performance and it was greeted with much enthusiasm. Once again the brilliant "L'Oiseau de Feu" was seen, and this in turn was followed by the lovely spectacle, "Les Sylphides." The two latter pieces are now so familiar that no further comment is necessary. M. Pierre Monteux conducted all three ballets with much intelligence and spirit, and a good attendance thoroughly appreciated this well-arranged triple bill.

Mr. Alfred Warcing, managing director of the Scottish Playgoers, Ltd., during their repertory seasons at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, has just returned from a holiday in India. He announces his intention of giving another season of repertory plays in Glasgow, among those mentioned being Oscar Wilde's comedy "The Importance of Being Earnest" (for which Sir George Alexander has kindly given his permission) and Bjornson's play, "The Gauntlet." Additional plays will be announced shortly, and the probable date of opening will be Monday, March 10.

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

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KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the romantic Play, entitled "SWEET NELL OF OLD DRURY."

Abounding alike in tense situations and scenes of delightful comedy, acted in every part with the ease and finesse which comes of long familiarity, produced under the cunning direction of Mr. Louis Calvert, and mounted with artistic lavishness, it is not often one sees a better all-round entertainment than that provided by Miss Julia Neilson and the New Theatre company in Paul Kester's most attractive romantic drama. The name part provides Miss Neilson with fine scope for the exercise of her art, and it need hardly be said she takes full advantage of its opportunities. Grave or gay, humble orange girl or King's favourite, she has the house entirely with her from start to finish, and many are the curtain calls demanded of her at the close of each act. Mr. H. Humberston Wright realises to a nicety the weak, dallying nature of King Charles II. and uses his fine voice with excellent discretion. Mr. Dennis J Hogan invests the part of Lord Jeffreys with the requisite sinister strength; Mr. Alfred Kendrick is a manly Sir Roger Fairfax, and Messrs. Henry Hewitt and Bellenden Clarke are good as Lords Rochester and Lovelace. Mr. Arthur Williams struts and "spouts" with delicious swagger as the unprosperous actor Percival, and Mr. Arthur Applin as his timid brother artiste provides a suitable contrast and makes that shy lover's hopeless passion for Nell Gwyn genuinely pathetic. The parts of Lady Castlemaine and the Duchess of Portsmouth are in the capable hands of Misses Violet Farebrother and Betty Bellairs, while Miss Mollie Terraine makes a charming Lady Olivia Vernon and proves herself quite equal to the emotional demands of the part. Each of the smaller parts, too, is admirably filled, and all work together to form a most satisfactory whole.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Play, entitled "CHARLEY'S AUNT."

The theatrical year would be incomplete without at least one visitation from "Charley's Aunt," which this week once again causes the customary laughter from large houses. Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is an extremely able one. In the part of Sir Francis Chesney Mr. Theo. McCausland Stewart acts with much ability, and is very well received. Mr. James Page's Spettigue is a well-considered study, and Messrs. Lawrence Anderson and F. T. Cooper are lively undergraduates. Mr. Charles Windermere as the pseudo Donna Lucia is a tower of strength, and maintains the hilarity at high pressure. Mr. Sydney Compton continues to be very successful in the part of Brassett, making the character agreeably conspicuous. Miss Florence Saunders as Kitty Verdun and Miss Vera Cornish as Amy Spettigue give artistic and charming portrayals, and Ela Delahay is sweetly represented by Miss Pauline Hugen. Miss Mabel Young is effective and dignified as the real Donna Lucia d'Alverdorez. "The Colour-Sergeant" is the curtain-raiser, and derives much of its effectiveness from the capable acting of Mr. Sydney Compton as William Honour, Mr. James Page as Bob Atkins, and Miss Nancy Harding as Nelly.

WIMBLEDON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Modern Morality Play, "EVERYWOMAN."

To all in search of some new thing, something entirely unique in every respect, this production, modelled somewhat, even in the name, on the old morality dramas, is a novelty that must not be missed. Such a play, with its serious moral tone and elevating atmosphere, should appeal to the more thoughtful playgoers, and is a lesson that the young may well listen to. The story of the pilgrimage of Everywoman in quest of Love, with its sombre scenes, its saddening sights, was followed on Monday evening with the greatest interest by the audience assembled in the Wimbledon Theatre. The company of Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton is admirable, and fortunately so, for poor and indifferent acting would have marred considerably the whole play. The fine declamatory style of Mr. Edward Compton was seen to splendid advantage in the prologue and epilogue, he so grandly rendered as the chorus of the piece, "Nobody." Miss May Congdon sustains the long and difficult part as Everywoman with much dramatic power, equally in the lighter and the more sombre portions of the life story; her fine scene with Passion in the second act and the conclusion of the third act, when before the mirror, being splendidly rendered. Miss Daisy England was excellent as Truth, while Youth and Beauty found truly fitting exponents in Miss Haidee Barry and Miss Beatrice Yaldwyn. Modesty was daintily represented by Miss Helen Oliver, while Miss Ruby Vernon in the character of Conscience had opportunities of showing that she possessed a charming voice and can sing to good effect. Miss Lily Vine looked magnificent as Vice, and was most alluringly attractive. Miss Lena Delphine as Greed, Miss Clare Huntley as Self, Miss Margaret Emden as Vanity, and Miss Maria Fontaine as Flirt, are all entitled to praise. Of the male characters, Mr. Fred Powell is to be specially commended for his performance as Wealth; Mr. William P. Sheen and Mr. H. Strangeways-Lesmere as Stuff and Bluff, the theatrical managers, were highly amusing, as was also Mr. Henry Barrett as Puff, the Press Agent. The part of Passion was cleverly played by Mr. Mervyn Colomb, while the antithesis, True Love (or King Love the First) was enacted by Mr. Gerald Henson with success. Mr. Frank R. Robertson was droll as Lord Witless, Mr. Geoffrey Wilkinson gave a clever portrayal of Flattery, Mr. Richard Cowell acted well as Age, and Mr. W. Ewart was a realistic Time. Smaller parts were adequately undertaken by Messrs. Augustus Hammond, Arthur J. Cramer, L. Arthur, and Bates and Hamilton. This being the actual Drury Lane production, the excellence of the scenery and *mise-en-scène* need not be particularised, suffice it to say that nothing could possibly have been better. "Everywoman" is given by arrangement with Mr. Arthur Collins, and with Mr. Edward Compton, and so talented a company should have a long and prosperous career through the provincial cities.

FULHAM THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Farcical Comedy, entitled "THE GLAD EYE."

This lively piece is greatly to the liking of Fulham audiences, played as it is by a smart company. The difficulties, evasions, and misadventures of the too-ingenious husbands provoked continuous honest laughter. Mr. Stanley Brett is well suited in the part of the amorous Gaston Bocard, and his quaint attitudes and facial expressions are a never-failing source of amusement. ite as large a part falls to the lot of Mr. Percy ont (as Polignac), who makes a capital com- o Mr. Brett. Mr. W. E. Richardson is s the father-in-law Galipaux, who, be- ious humours of the deluded spiritua- mall amusement by his clever act- Kiki. Mr. Fred Eastman, as apital study of the ex-waiter " and was always true to nt Grenville proved very typical lover Floquet, layed the part of ab and a strict regard to business. Mr. H. Madden was satisfactory as the real Count, and Mr. S. S. Sinclair was good as the butler. Mr. A. Dennis also proved a most heroic Sergeant of Police. Miss Nannie Bennett acted as the knowing Lucienne Bocard with demure artfulness and a pleasantly sly sense of humour. Miss Enid Sass was very charming, and played well as the more ingenuous Suzanne Poligsuch. Miss Billie Sinclair was a delightful exponent of the lively Kiki, and proved quite equal to the requirements of the part. Miss Adah Rothwell did all that was wanted as the maid Juliette. "The Glad Eye" was preceded by a clever little piece by Frederic Sargent, called "An Interrupted Divorce." The idea of a lady, in danger of the Divorce Court, coming to the house of the leading barrister on the other side, and bluffing him into giving up an incriminating letter, is cleverly worked out, and the action ranges from tragedy to comedy and back again in very lively and convincing style.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Musical Comedy, "THE QUAKER GIRL."

Mr. George Dance's companies are no strangers to Crystal Palace audiences, and this week's production is quite up to the excellent standard which Mr. J. Bannister Howard has led his patrons to expect. Mr. Frank H. Crisp has a fine voice and dramatic power, and gives an excellent account of himself as the hero, Captain Charteris. Tony Chute, the American, is acted in spirited fashion by Mr. William Greene, whose gaiety never flags and whose dances and songs are enthusiastically encored. Mr. Fred Monti as Jeremiah, the merry Quaker lad, is a humorist of another order, but equally acceptable for his quaintness and his originality. He is ably seconded by Miss Hilda Stuart, who as Phœbe dances nimbly and sings archly. Miss Doris Dennis as Princess Mathilde is a great and deserved success, with her charming appearance and good singing. As Prudence, Miss Adela Crispin is as demure as she is delightful, whether in the sober garb of the Quaker girl or as the finished mondaine in Paris. Her song about her "Little grey bonnet" has to be repeated Mr. Frederick Hobbs has a fine voice and a dignity of manner well suited to Prince Carlo; and Mr. George McCloskie invests the small part of M. Duhamel with interest. As Larose, the Parisian Chief of Police, Mr. Henry Adnes convulses the house by his excellent fooling, in which he is aided and abetted by Miss Jenny Armstrong, who gives reality to the part of the French modiste. Miss Ivy Marshall as Diane looks smart and speaks well, and Miss Kitty Develin as Rachel Pym is effective as the leader of a bevy of pretty girls in the attractive attire of the sect. Mr. Jno. Duncan is a sanctimonious Nathaniel Pym, and Miss May Marshall is quite in the picture as Mrs. Lakin, the hostess of the Chequers. The orchestra is conducted by Mr. Otto Manns, a nephew of the late Sir August Manns, so long famous at the Crystal Palace.

THE BRITANNIA, HOXTON.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Play, entitled "AFTER DARK."

After a long run of pantomime, Mr. Powell staged on Monday this favourite drama. Mr. George de Lara plays the villainous Dicey Morris, a Semitic money-lender, excellently. As his gentlemanly assistant in crime, Mr. Wilfred H. Benson was Chandos Bellingham, a man about town, to the life. Mr. William Segwin spoke distinctly as Gordon Chumley, an officer. Sir George Medhurst, a victim of the money-lender's cunning, was capably undertaken by Mr. Victor Lorraine. A perfect character study of a difficult part, Old Tom, was given by Mr. John Sergeant. Area Jack, a London arab, was enacted with typical good humour by Mr. Charles Hughes. Mr. E. P Vernon made a natural policeman. Messrs. W. H. Russell and Hope Blade were very amusing as two riverside roughs, Bargee and Crumpets. Miss Mabel Scudamore gave a pathetic and finished impersonation of Rose Egerton, an heiress. A sympathetic rendering of Eliza Medhurst was given by Miss Margaret Murch. Mr. Frank Howard cleverly delineated a typical gambler. In the music hall scene Miss Madge Lester gave some charming male impersonations, and Messrs. Hughes, Hughes, and Harlem, the characteristic rag-time three, were very popular. The staging was excellent.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Musical Comedy, entitled "A COUNTRY GIRL."

"A Country Girl" has been to Deptford several times before, but as embodied in the comely person of Miss Ivy Proudfoot the popular and tuneful Devonshire lass still finds plenty of admirers. Mr. Durrant Swan's principal company, who occupy the Broadway boards this week, fulfil their task excellently. Miss Ivy Proudfoot both in her singing and acting most ably fills the arduous rôle of Nan. Mr. Arthur Staples is very amusing as Barry, and rattles through his part with unflagging energy, while his dancing is very neat. Miss Florence Foster is a dainty little Sophie, and acts and sings with much charm. Mr. Leon Simkin is a dignified and humorous Rajah of Bhong, his well-rendered topical song being supplied with some up-to-date verses. Geoffrey Challoner is very well played by Mr. Douglas Phillips, and his singing is much appreciated. Miss Monica Ellestree is a graceful and sweet-voiced Marjorie Joy. Miss Josie Hammersley makes a handsome and tuneful Princess Melanch. Miss Maud Dagmar greatly distinguishes herself as Lady Anchester. Mr. Percy Evarard as Sir Joseph Verity, Mr. Frank Manger as Douglas Verity, Mr. F. Langpard as Lord Grassmere, and Mr. C. S. Cartwright as Lord Anchester are all well placed. The large chorus work hard and successfully, the ladies' ball-room costumes being much admired. The two set scenes from the brush of Mr. Julian Hicks are very effective. Mr. William Devin efficiently presides over an augmented orchestra. Mr. E. R. Beaumont is general-manager for Mr. Durrant Swan.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Play, entitled "BEN-HUR."

Mr. George Dance has attained one of his greatest achievements in the matter of production with "Ben-Hur," which he is presenting at Kennington this week. He gives the suburban audience the identical scenic wonders which made "Ben-Hur" famous at Drury Lane, and it is safe to say that rarely has one witnessed such a complete triumph of stagecraft with a touring company. The scene between the decks of the Roman galley in the second act, when the pirates give battle, is most realistic, and the great chariot race in the arena at Antioch in the fifth act is intensely thrilling. But for solemn impressiveness and beauty the final scene on Mount Olivet must rank as the gem of the piece, and one upon which Mr. Dance and all concerned in the production are entitled to congratulate themselves. Mr. Philip Desborough gives an admirable reading of the part of Ben-Hur, acting with wonderful force and effect. Mr. Hatton Sinclair furnishes a capital study of Simonides, the faithful steward of the House of Hur, and Miss Eva Rowland is an attractive Esther. Mr. Douglas Vigors supplies a robust interpretation of Messala, the scornful Roman noble, and Miss Mildred Cottell sustains the somewhat difficult character of Iras with considerable credit. She certainly looks an alluring Oriental figure when she enters on the camel. Mr. Cecil Tressilian is a dignified Balthazar, the Egyptian, and Mr. Edward Valentine makes a manly Ilderim, the sheik. Mr. Walter Underwood is excellent as Arrius, the Tribune, and Miss Eileen Atherley is responsible for a sympathetic sketch of Tirzah. Miss Edith Blande is very good as the mother of Ben-Hur, and Miss Elizabeth Watson graphically interprets the part of Amrah, the faithful family nurse. Smaller rôles are ably filled by Messrs. Vivian Harbord (Malluch), O. Waller (Hortator), C. Maverne (Sanballet), and A. Walter (officer of the galley). The musical portions of the play are beautifully rendered by a strong chorus, under the direction of Mr. H. Bogetti.

DALSTON THEATRE.

THE J. W. TURNER ENGLISH OPERA COMPANY.

That the visits of the members of the J. W. Turner English Opera Company are as popular as ever is proved by the influx of music-lovers to the Dalston Theatre this week, where, as the closing instalment, several of the most popular operas have been rendered, including the following: "La Sonnambula," "Faust," "Il Trovatore," "The Lily of Killarney," "Tannhäuser," "Cavalleria Rusticana," "The Daughter of the Regiment," and "The Bohemian Girl." An efficient orchestra, under the direction of Mr. T. Lawton, aids the artists in the presentation of the respective parts, and the choruses are sustained with a most creditable degree of volume and precision. In "La Sonnambula" Miss Evelyn Ray met with a decidedly favourable reception as Lisa. Miss Elizabeth Stock created the best of impressions as Teresa, and Miss Pauline Donnan was a satisfactory Amina. Mr. Seth Hughes proved himself a painstaking artist as Elvino; Mr. Tom Griffiths fully sustained his popularity as Count Rudolpho; Mr. Charles Williams as Alessio gained considerable applause; and Mr. Hubert Dunkerley was the Notary. An enthusiastic reception was accorded the representation of Gounod's "Faust." In the title-rôle Mr. Seth Hughes was a complete success. The highest notes in his solos were reached easily and sustained with a clearness that ensured for the artist unstinted applause. His appearance was also in his favour. Mr. John Kelly, as Mephistopheles, must be mentioned as another decided success. The more ambitious portions of the vocalisation falling to his share were rendered with all the necessary power, especially in certain scenes with Marguerite, while with Martha (Miss Beatrice Hill) he shared the rare opportunities for approach to humour afforded during the opera. Mr. Kelly was encored for the serenade outside Marguerite's dwelling. Miss Kitty Brownless made a charming Marguerite. Her rendering of the jewel song was excellent, and had the advantage of being sung without effort. Her duets with Faust were among the most noteworthy things of the evening, and there was sympathy in her voice and style which appealed effectively to the audience. Miss Jessie Dennis as Siebel was as popular as ever, and for the sweet song to Marguerite she was encored. Mr. Frank Clarke was a valiant Valentine, and his singing after the duel with Faust, in which the latter, by the aid of Mephistopheles, contrives to inflict a fatal injury, was so to the liking of his listeners that after the curtain had descended he had to re-appear. Mr. H. Dunkerley, in the part of Wagner, did all that was required of him. Perhaps needless to add, the ever-popular "Soldiers' chorus" was encored.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Drama, entitled "A THIEF IN THE NIGHT."

This well-written drama has met with a gratifying reception at this popular home of drama during the week. It is performed in the usual capable manner by the stock company engaged, and staged most elaborately. As Sonia Cleeve, Miss Effie Bartlett has a character that enables her to display her abilities as a finished actress. As her companion in crime, Michael Pagani, Mr. Frank Stone is to be praised for an excellent character impersonation. Miss Ida Chapman presents the ill-treated Joan Escombe with much charm and graciousness. Miss Winnie Rousby plays Little Joan effectively, Dolly Varden is excellent as the nurse Susan, Miss Violet Beatrice is most amusing as Happy Christina, and with Mr. Sid Kearns, who plays Toby, keeps the audience in merry mood. Mr. Hugh Carmichael presented a dignified and aristocratic Lord Romilly, but is worthy of a better character. Mr Alfred Lugg acquits himself with marked ability as Allan Escombe, and Mr. Herbert Walton was seen to decided advantage as Richard Cleeve. A number of minor characters, including Mr. Archie Grant, who appears to be permanently cast to represent a member of the force, were all in capable hands. The Bioscope threw two excellent films on the screen, and the orchestra rendered valuable service with the incidental music and the necessary selections during the intervals.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Drama, entitled "A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."

Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood's company is at the Lyric this week in Miss Emma Litchfield's stirring Anglo-Mexican drama, "A Clever Impostor." Crammed full of exciting incidents and striking situations, the piece was followed with absorbed interest by a responsive audience, which was not backward in showing its appreciation of the various artistes. Chief among these was the authoress in the part of Norah Grosvenor. Miss Litchfield not only gave evidence of considerable emotional powers, but also, in scenes where she had to disguise herself as a Lancashire lass, a Jewess, and an Irish colleen, showed herself to be a very capable character actress. Mr. Herbert Evelyn gave a virile impersonation of Manuel Teneciaa, the villain; Mr. Alfred Richards was an attractive Captain Desmond; and Mr. Arthur Rodney acted well as Stephen Grosvenor. Mr. Wallace Black's talents as a comedian found ample scope in the part of the cockney, Jim Brightside; while Miss Rose Norries' acting as the vinegary Margaret Grosvenor was also much enjoyed. Excellent, too, was Mr. Ernest H. Clarke in the part of Bob Darnforth. Miss Lillie Carter-Livesey made a pretty Maisie Grosvenor, and indicated well the silent suffering caused by her brutal husband's callous selfishness. Miss Marjorie Seymour was a charming Connie Pleasant. The smaller parts were also well filled, and the play was admirably mounted.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Play, entitled "THE NIGHT SIDE OF LONDON."

Mr. C. Watson Mill's drama in four acts and nine scenes, entitled "The Night Side of London," is a play written with a special purpose—that of an exposure of the White Slave traffic. The drama realistically depicts how the alien, driven from his own country, finds himself on our shores with every facility for trading upon the innocence of our young womanhood. The alien in the play, Herod Steinberg, is about as despicable a character as could be imagined, but the thoroughly powerful impersonation contributed by Mr. Alfred Maurice remains one of the features of the play. Manuel Errington, the new Evangelist, who is devoting his life to the suppression of the evil, is played with much force and vigour by Mr. Terrence Byron, whose elocution and acting are both excellent. Starman and Cairns, two of Steinberg's victims, are capitally portrayed by Messrs. E. Hall Eldon and Henry Earlsmere, and Ralph Desmond, a roué, is played in convincing style by Mr. Leslie Lingham. Mr. Francis Cavanagh is effective in the part of Jim Merrick, and Mr. J. Mackarsy acts with a due sense of his responsibilities as Jasper Mordant, a man about town. Very amusing is Mr. James Hussey's assumption of Curley Dabbs. He undertakes the burden of supplying the bulk of the humour of the piece, and his efforts are rewarded by hearty applause. Interest is centred in Esther Dorrincourt, a girl with the odds against her, and the rôle is admirably acted by Miss Mary Mallalieu, whose experience stands her well in her representation of the vicissitudes of the heroine. The part of Naomi Merrick is allotted to Miss Vera Grafton, who ably depicts the cruelty of the unprincipled adventuress. Miss Madge Heyton as the unfortunate Magdala Fawcett plays with her customary charm and skill. Mary Seaton, known as Slithers, is vivaciously represented by Miss Marie E. Cotton, and Lelia Le Brune is undertaken with success by Miss M. Kitts. Mrs. Errington is charmingly portrayed by Miss L. Moure, and Miss Josephine Olga, a clever little actress, is successful as Dolly, the little foundling. Miss Kitty Movill provides some fun as the third-floor-back slavey, Harriet Spinks, and Messrs. Oscaren, Smithby, Gibson, and Sturgess are all good in minor parts. One of the most noticeable features of this company is the great care and thought spent on the make-up and costumes of the various characters, and this, combined with the finished smoothness with which the acting is marked, leaves a most favourable impression.

BOROUGH THEATRE.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Musical Play, entitled "THE DOLLAR PRINCESS."

Mr. George Edwardes's company in "The Dollar Princess" was Monday night's attraction at the Stratford Borough Theatre, and there was a very large audience present to welcome such a popular booking. Miss Effie Mann is an extremely engaging and vivacious Alice, and she sings delightfully. Mr. Fred Maguire makes a pleasing and debonair Freddy Fairfax, and the numbers allotted to him are rendered in excellent style. Mr. H. Sinclair Cotter's performance as Mr. Bulger is decidedly droll and entertaining, and he works indefatigably. Mr. Tom Redmond makes an exhilarating Phineas Conder, a character extremely well portrayed. Mr. Clifton Hamilton plays with skill as the vacuous Dick, and Mr. Ripley Evans contributes admirable work as the Earl of Quorn. Miss Carda Walker is highly successful as Olga, and Miss Florence Ivy is a pretty and animated Daisy. Remaining parts are all in quite capable hands. The augmented orchestra and chorus are under the direction of Mr. Harry Burton, and Mr. Gifford Stacey is the courteous business-manager of the company.

"The Merry Widow" was staged on Wednesday night, and occupies the bill for the rest of the week.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Drama, entitled "'MID PLEASURES AND PALACES."

The first visit to Stratford of Mr. C. Watson Mill's company in this piece attracted a very large audience on Monday night. The story is interesting throughout, the piece is staged far above the average of touring dramas, and its cordial reception was thoroughly justified. Mr. C. Watson Mill is admirably suited in the part of Roual, the thief, who, in spite of his clever depredatory propensities, is very popular with the audience. A sweet and winsome performance as the auburn-haired flower girl-millionairess comes from Miss Joan Ellis, who displays much histrionic ability. A strong and well-defined portraiture of the usurping chief of police Roubert le Grand, is contributed by Mr. Edward E. Louis; Mr. Horace A. Whitmee readily achieves success as Captain Derrick; Mr. Villiers Stanley supplies a resourceful characterisation of the police spy, Dubosque; Mr. W. Pallisor is a picturesque and convincing El Hasson; as the "nutty" Henri de Sirrac Mr. Richard Oliver is always amusing, and Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle does exceedingly well as the thief-maker, Noirt. Miss Edith Gregory contributes a praiseworthy performance as Coira, and the boy Phillip is intelligently played by Miss Myra Eyton.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Russian Drama, entitled, "SIBERIA."

This spectacular drama was beautifully staged and produced by Mr. W. J. Mackay, and the West Londoners were duly appreciative. As Trolski, Mr. Jack Denton gave a thoroughly sound performance; Mr. Jack Raymond was bright and effective as Ivan; Mr. Frank Carlile aroused much hostility as the arch-plotter Jarakoff, and his satellite Sparta was similarly sustained by Mr. Jackson Hayes; whilst Mr. David G. Noble was always in the picture as Nicholai. The Pheodora of Miss Florence Lynn was a decidedly praiseworthy effort; Miss Winnie Donovan's delineation of Sara left nothing to be desired; Miss Winifrede Dryden was quietly unassuming as Vera; and Miss Eva Price portrayed unfortunate Marie with a pathos that deeply stirred the audience. The rest of a long cast worked with unflagging energy, Mr. Ward Bailey's orchestra was meritorious as usual, and the Russian military uniforms, by H. and M. Rayne, were magnificent.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, WINDSOR.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Play, entitled "THE GAY LORD QUEX."

The popular residential manager, Mr. J. E. Bull, is to be complimented upon his enterprise in bringing such high-class productions to this well-patronised house. On Monday Mr. Charles Stretton's clever company commenced a week's engagement with "The Gay Lord Quex," which was given a most cordial reception. It is one of the best things Windsor has enjoyed in this particular class of play, and warm praise is due to the performers for their bright and convincing efforts. The name-part is in the hands of Mr. C. Leveson Lane, who plays with a vigour and freshness that bring forth well-merited applause. He is splendidly supported by Mr. Charles Harley, whose Sir Chichester Frayne is much admired. Mr. J. Poole-Kirkwood gives a good performance of Valma, otherwise Frank Pollit, and he also carefully undertakes the duties of stage management. Captain Bastling finds a capable exponent in Mr. G. C. Roche; Mr. Fred Henshaw is successful as Bristow; and Mr. Simms does all that is required of Morgan. The part of Sophy Fullgarney (a manicurist) was played by that experienced actress, Miss Ethel Griffies, who made quite a hit. Miss Jess Dorynne gave a strong and characteristic delineation of the Duchess of Strood, and was most convincing. Miss Rita Ward displays talent in her graceful representation of Julia, Countess of Owbridge. Miss Ponsonby Hartshorn acts with marked ability in a pleasing impersonation of Muriel Eden; whilst Miss Violet Harley fills the rôle of Mrs. Jack Eden with infinite credit, her reading being all that could be wished for. A small but excellent histrionic contribution is that of Miss Eva Turnour as Miss Lembird; and Miss Daisy Baldry gives a capital representaton of Miss Huddle. Miss Jennie Atherton and Mlle. Juliette Pelleter as Miss Claridge and Miss Moon also lend adequate support. The scenery is excellent and the dresses very pretty. The general-manager for Mr. Charles Stretton is Mr. Arthur T. Baugh.

On Sunday evening, at the Ibsen Club Studio, Miss C. A. Arfwedson will give some "Reminiscences of the Boy Ibsen," including his life as an apothecary, his early poems, and a reading of his hitherto untranslated "Fairy" comedy, "St. John's Night."

"THE RUIN OF A COUNTESS."

Drama, in Four Acts, by O. Silverstone and Miss G. H. Walton, Produced for the First Time in London at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich, on Monday, Feb. 24.

Hon. Francis Hunter .....Mr. O. Silverstone
Lord Wilfred Effingham .....Mr. Ernest Dare
Dr. Stephen Webster ..Mr. Sydney Humphries
Jack Carruthers .....Mr. Geoffrey Chate
Barney O'Rourke .....Mr. Ted Mooney
Quong Hi and Chung Li..Mr. Harry C. Rutland
Black Mike .....Mr. Joe Nicholas
Bertie Effingham .....Miss Olive Yorke
Lucette .....Miss Maud Grainger
Ivy Hunter .....Miss Mary Douglas
Lady Marion Effingham ....Miss Jessica Ford

An exciting production bearing the above alluring title is having its London introduction at the Theatre Royal, Woolwich. In Act I. we find Lord Effingham and his friend the doctor discussing the great changes creeping over Lady Effingham. The doctor says there is only one thing to cause the symptoms, but such a thing as he names seems, in her case, impossible; but, later, he picks up an opium pipe and finds it has recently been smoked. Meanwhile, little Bertie Effingham lies ill in his mother's room. She has been warned that any sudden shock or chill might prove fatal to the boy, and she has sworn to guard him through the night. The craving for opium proves too strong, and she opens the windows to admit Francis Hunter, who has promised her a fresh supply of opium. Hunter is next of kin should there be no heir, and he wants both the Countess and the boy out of the way. Lady Marion having taken the opium and lost consciousness Hunter strips the clothes off the bed, and makes his exit by the windows, which he leaves wide open. Lord Effingham enters, and finding the windows open, rouses Lady Marion and bitterly upbraids her for her neglect, finally ordering her from the house.

In Act II. we find Hunter tempting Marion to go abroad with him, but her love for her husband makes her resist his proposal. Later she meets Lord Effingham and asks him for money, as she is penniless, but he refuses. Hunter, who has been listening, proposes to her that she shall help herself, and gives her a key of the safe in her husband's library. She is discovered at her nefarious work in the library by Lord Effingham, whom she threatens with a revolver. Francis appears at the open window and fires. Lord Effingham falls, and Marion crys out to the doctor, who has entered, that she has killed her husband; but Barney, the valet, appears, and denounces Hunter. In Act III. we are introduced to the opium palace, and Marion, now broken down and ill, is seeking shelter there. She discovers her husband has been kidnapped by the order of Francis Hunter, and that he is a prisoner in the secret room of Chung Li. She is again possessed by the terrible craving for opium, and she experiences bitter agony in her fight against it and her desire to save her husband. After a severe struggle she thrusts the opium pipe from her, saves her husband, and quietly disappears. In Act IV. we are back again at Effingham Hall, where, restored to her husband and child, Lady Marion is. Francis Hunter reappears, vowing vengeance on Marion. He fires at Lord Effingham and tries to escape, but is stabbed by a Chinese priest, as he has desecrated a native temple.

The play was greeted with great applause, and on the occasion of our visit there were no fewer than twenty-three curtains. Miss Jessica Ford (Mrs. O. Silverstone) is a native of the town, her father, Captain Alford, being in command of H.M.T.S. Monarch for over twenty years, and the family are well known and respected. On Tuesday Miss Ford was the recipient of a handsome bouquet from the crew of the ship. In the difficult rôle of the unscrupulous Hon. Francis Hunter, Mr. O. Silverstone acts with force and precision, his impersonation being everything that could be desired. Miss Jessica Ford as Lady Marion Effingham, a slave of the terrible opium drug habit, acts with charm. She is perhaps at her best in the scenes where, under the influence of the drug, she becomes maudlin, and when later she reforms her histrionic powers are equal to the occasion. Mr. Ernest Dare makes a most satisfactory Lord Effingham, delivering his lines well. Excellent character studies are those of Messrs Sydney Humphries. Harry C. Rutland, and Joe Nicholas as Dr. Webster, the dual rôle of Quong Hi and Chung Li and Black Mike respectively. Excellent comedy is infused into the play by Miss Maud Grainger as the French maid, Lucette; and Messrs. Geoffrey Chate and Ted Mooney as Jack Carruthers and Barney O'Rourke. Little Miss Olive Yorke shows marked cleverness in her enactment of the boy, Bertie Effingham; Miss Mary Douglas gives a sympathetic rendering of the part of Ivy Hunter. The scenery, effects and furniture are the best obtainable.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Feb. 24, the Musical Play, entitled "THE SUNSHINE GIRL."

Mr. George Dance's company is paying its initial visit to Woolwich, and the bright, tuneful and merry piece goes with a swing from start to finish. In the title-rôle, Deila Dale, Miss Mysie Devine is sweet and delightful in her singing, dancing and acting. Miss Jennie Richards as Brenda Blacker gives proof of being a born humorist. Miss Dorothy Cooper is admirable as Lady Rosabelle Merrydew. Miss Mary Leyland is well placed as Emmeline, and her song, "Lovers," was redemanded. Miss Winifred Volt makes the most of the opportunities offered her, and she has many, as Marie Silvaine, and scores each time. Mr. Jack Morrison as Lord Bicester is excellent alike in acting, singing and dancing. Mr. Harry Bentham's Vernon Blundell is a cleverly executed rôle. Messrs. Percy Cahill, Richard Saker, and Chas. McCann extract every ounce of effect from their respective parts of Commodore Parker, Hodson, and Stepneyak. The laughter-maker-in-chief is, of course, Mr. Theodore Leonard, who, as Floot, ensures continual laughter all the while he is on the stage. Mr. Jack Morris does well as the sailor Jack; as also does Miss Marion Meynell as the suffragette, Miss Molyneaux. The other rôles are all in capable hands. The scenery and effects are of the very best. The well-balanced chorus and augmented orchestra are under the able direction of Mr. Albert Vernon.

Recently we gave a résumé of the work done by that useful little body, the Play Actors. Their next production will take place on Sunday, March 16, followed by a matinée on Monday, March 17, when "Those Suburbans," by Cecil Clifton, will be played.

The Pioneer Players, under the direction of Miss Edith Craig, have arranged in their forthcoming programme on March 9 for the production of "Hamlet" on the lines laid down by Mr. Louis Calvert in his suggestive and stimulating book, "An Actor's 'Hamlet.'" Mr. Calvert has agreed to produce "Hamlet" according to his own version of the classic, and will himself play the title part. The Queen will be played by Mrs. Saba Raleigh. Ophelia by Miss Ellen O'Malley, Horatio by Mr. Godfrey Tearle, the First Gravedigger by Mr. Edmund Gwenn, Polonius by Mr. Fisher White, the First Actor by Mr. Clare Derwent, and the Ghost by Mr. Courtney T

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER KAMPF UMS ROSENROTE."

Play, in Four Acts, by Ernst Hardt, Produced at the Deutsches Schauspielhaus, on Feb. 10.

Von Bergen ..... Herr Blümmer
Frau von Bergen ..... Fräulein Joseph
Vult ..... Herr Dümmke
Ella ..... Fräulein Hellberg
Reinhold ..... Herr Gunold
Frieda ..... Fräulein Kühlberg
Brueck ..... Herr Ulrici
Käthe ..... Fräulein Ghiberti
Stampsel ..... Herr Ekert
Zimmerwirtin ..... Fräulein Weissleder
Diener ..... Herr Fuerst
Dienstmädchen ..... Fräulein Rohn

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, Feb. 20.—This is one of the earliest efforts of the winner of the Grillparzer Prize, and the management of the Deutsches Schauspielhaus (formerly the Komische Oper) has not made a particularly wise choice in unearthing it from the archives where it reposed. Were it not for the sake of the good acting and the excellent reputation of the author, a notice of the play would be altogether superfluous. It endeavours to set forth the conflict between the old and the young, the new school and the old, such as has frequently enough been presented to us on the modern stage and in a far more convincing and entertaining manner. Herr von Bergen is the tyrannical father, who loves his children passionately, but cannot feel with them and their "new" ideas. When Vult, his only son, determines to give up everything for the stage, for which he has unquestionable talent, the father's horror is unbounded and quite out of date. There are long and wearisome discussions between the two, and even longer between the delightful young atheist, socialist, and would-be cynic, Robert Brueck, and his bosom friend, Vult; the four acts are, in fact, terribly tiring, and not even the good intentions of the author's admirers could conquer the boredom. Vult, it may be added, suffers all kinds of privations; but, in the end, is victorious, but his poor little sister Ella, who has not her brother's strength of mind, is cheated of her life's happiness through the tyranny of the well-meaning father. Herr Hardt was called by his admirers and friends before the curtain and warmly applauded, but I fear the piece will not hold the boards for any length of time.

At the Theatre des Westens the bright little operetta, "Die beiden Hussaren," by Léon Jessel, is running well, nightly encores being the rule. The book, which is by MM. Jacoby and Schanzer, is very funny. It is the story of a "double." The Princess of a small state pays a visit to her soldiers' camp while a little war is raging with a neighbouring principality. She proceeds, womanlike, to fall in love with one of her Hussar lieutenants, and, forgetting all about the war, invites him to her castle. During his absence his twin brother—a worthy tailor as like him as two peas—comes to introduce his bride to whom he was wedded a few hours ago. At this juncture an alarm is sounded; the enemy is upon them. The lieutenant is absent, and there is nothing to be done but for the tailor to represent his twin. He hurries into uniform, mounts the absent man's horse, and leads the way to the front. His charger, feeling a novice on his back, promptly runs away, and so alarms the enemy that they turn tail and make their escape. The pseudo lieutenant is covered with glory, and is taken to the castle in triumph. The Princess is astonished, everyone is astonished, and nobody knows who is who; the fun soon becomes confusing, but that does not matter, as the music is so very pleasing, and the conclusion was the signal for a burst of loud applause from all parts of the house. Kapellmeister Redl conducted in capital style as usual, and the cast was good all round, the dual rôle of the Hussars being admirably rendered by Herr Matzner and the part of the Princess equally well by Fräulein Dorsch.

The first performance of Dr. Strauss' new opera, "Ariadne auf Naxos," at Berlin, will take place on the 25th of this month. The Royal Opera has seldom done such "biz," the booking going briskly from 50 marks a seat downwards—an almost unprecendented price for Berlin. Dr. Strauss will conduct, and the part of Zerbinette will be sung by Fräulein Artot de Padilla, one of the most charming young artistes in the company.

Herr Staegemann, the most popular actor at the Royal Schauspielhaus until quite recently, is studying hard for his new career of operatic singer. His voice is said to be developing splendidly, and he will probably remain the young ladies' idol in his new capacity.

"PARISER LUFT."

Operetta, in Three Acts, by Martin Knopf, Produced at the Friedrich Wilhelm Städtisches, Feb. 22.

Laurant ..... Herr Werner
Frau Laurant ..... Fräulein Görgy
Prunier ..... Herr Jansen
Frau Prunier ..... Fräulein Benedek
Lesperon ..... Herr Schmasow
Frau Lesperon ..... Fräulein Berger
Detournelles ..... Herr Paulsen
Claudine ..... Fräulein Gonsa
Hermanee ..... Fräulein Heinrich
Justine ..... Fräulein Werk
René ..... Fräulein Felsen
Fréderic ..... Herr Gerhardt
Madelaine ..... Fräulein Göhler
Loulou ..... Fräulein Schnoor
Bertin ..... Herr Guttmann

BERLIN, Thursday, Feb. 27.—Yet another has been added to our long list of operettas; the operetta is, in fact, becoming the staple commodity of the Berlin theatres, and the only serious rival to the picture theatres. To judge by the enthusiastic reception the new work received, the uninitiated would immediately predict a run of several hundred nights, but I fear the applause was chiefly the well-meant expression of sympathy from friends of the composer, who would have been wiser to have been less demonstrative. The impartial critic can only record a skilful arrangement of familiar melodies; originality is conspicuous by its absence. As to the book, it has been drawn by Herr Taufstein from the farce, "Glück bei Frauen," by MM. Engel and Horst, that enjoyed a good deal of popularity at the Thalia some years ago. The piece was at the time fully detailed in your columns. Two girl friends get married; the one has always desired for her husband "an unwritten page," the other a man who had had a lively past and was a bold and experienced lover. Each bride gets exactly the opposite from the man she had wished, and a good many laughable complications arise in consequence. The fun is sometimes so broad as to be outside the line of good taste. The authors having laid the scene in Paris, it is generally supposed anything is permissible. The acting was very bright, Fräulein Berger and Herr Schmasow being far and away the best in the cast.

The Schiller Theatre, in the East, has produced the much-discussed drama, "Der Andere," by Dr. Paul Lindau. This is a case of dual existence very powerfully described in the plot. The play was first produced at the Lessing many years ago, with the famous Munich actor Mitterwurzer in the dual rôle of the Public Prosecutor and the burglar. It made a great impression at the time, and ran for many months, but has since fallen into oblivion, until it was quite recently revived in film, with Herr Bassermann in the [illegible]. All Berlin flocked to see the talkee of a film, the first time a German actor had used music, unique of to that mode of representation. Company of "Rag[illegible] Schiller—which is always enterprising and up to date—has revived the old drama. The result is highly satisfactory. The double rôle was admirably rendered by Herr Noack, who was very well supported, and the large audience followed the strong play with breathless attention.

The Schiller Syndicate is about to build another Schiller theatre, this time in Neukölln, a municipality bordering on Berlin. It will be in the same style as the Schillers in Berlin—cheap prices, classical and humorous repertory, and excellent company. The new building will cost—including the ground—£80,000. The management has pledged itself to give eight performances annually for school children, to which the Board School pupils will be admitted free, while those of higher class schools are to pay 6d. for a ticket in any part of the house.

Miss Emmy Wehlen and Mr. George Grossmith were in Berlin last week to see "Film Magic," the pretty musical play now running at the Berliner. Mr. George Edwardes intends to produce the piece at the Gaiety before long, and both Mr. Grossmith and Miss Wehlen will be provided with rôles to suit them to a T.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Feb. 25. Present: Mr. Adnam Sprange (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. Arthur Dennis, John Mortimer, W. G. Fay, Ben Webster, Fredk. James, William Devereux, Norman Yates, C. F. Collings, Murri Moncrieff, J. Benedict Butler, and Mr. D. Young (secretary), and Miss Lucy Sibley, Miss Laura Leycester, and Miss Phyllis Broughton.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed as amended.

The chairman read a letter from Mr. Fredk. Morland protesting against Mr. Ben Webster's ruling as chairman of the Council with regard to the voting of members of the Council at annual general meetings. It was agreed that a paragraph pointing out "that the chairman's ruling published last week was merely an expression of opinion, and did not form any rule of procedure of the Council," should be forwarded to "The Era."

The chairman read a letter from Mr. Chris Walker regretting non-attendance through illness, and the secretary was instructed to send a letter of condolence.

The secretary read a letter from Dr. Allen Finn thanking the Council for electing him a member of the hon. medical staff.

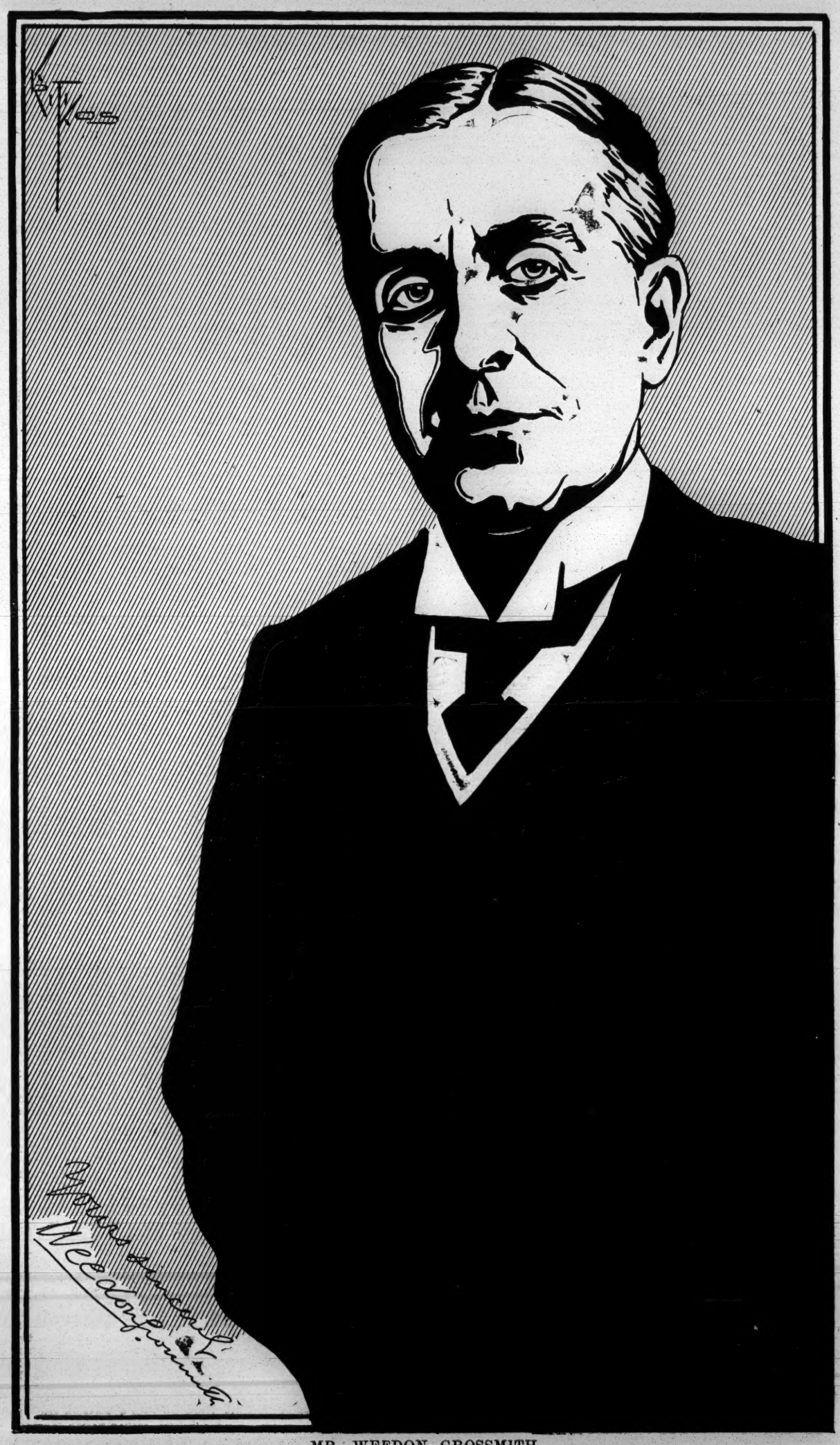
The hon. solicitor reported on three cases and received instructions.

The chairman read a letter from Mr. Cyril Maude thanking the Council for electing him a vice-president.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Mortimer and adopted. After discussion two recommendations were referred back to the Finance Committee. Mr. Mortimer also finally reported on the ball, and informed the Council that a profit of £28 14s. 6d., after all expenses had been met, was the result. The report was carried. A very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Mortimer for his arduous labours and to the secretary and staff was carried unanimously.

The House Committee's report was read by Miss Leycester and adopted.

Nominations: Rita Leggiero, Ruby Efga Myers, Elsie Gwynne, Lilian Talbot, and Marion Meath.



MR. WEEDON GROSSMITH.

Good in many lines of comedy, he is inimitable as a certain type of comic exquisite, reposeful, self-satisfied, drolly dense, and perfectly dressed. His valets are exquisite, and his shopmen superb.

The balance-sheet of the Liverpool League of Welldoers, in regard to the annual matinée held at the Olympia, in November last, showed a net gain of £159 12s. 11d., with expenses (printing, advertising, &c.), £63

Mr. William Archer, who has been made dramatic critic of the "Star," has had much and varied experience. He represented the "London Figaro" in the old Mortimer days, the "World" in its Edmund Yates days, the "Tribune," and the "Nation." The "Star" has always made its dramatic criticisms a great point, and this appointment of Mr. Archer proves it.

TRINITY COLLEGE.

The students' concert on Monday, Feb. 24, commenced with an organ solo, Fantasia in E minor (E. Silas), very creditably performed by William Bowyer. The vocal efforts of Miss Dorothy Deathridge were somewhat marred by nervousness. She sang "The bird and the maiden" (Spohr), and was accompanied by a violin obbligato played very neatly by Miss Constance Martin. The violin solo, Canzonetta from Concerto in D (Tschaikowsky) was exceedingly well rendered by Miss Gwen Bury, her tone being well modulated. The pianoforte solo, Romances Nos. 1 and 2, Op. 28 (Schumann), was entrusted to Miss Yvonne Pewny, who gave a good reading of the rather intricate work. She had a complete success and was applauded. The next item was the "Songs my mother taught me" (Dvorak), given by Miss Ada E. Orrin exceedingly well. She has a sympathetic voice of good quality. The Sonata Allegro in C minor (Mozart) was played by a very youthful performer, who, therefore, must be excused for a slight lapse of memory in her efforts. "Solveig's song" (Greig) gave Miss Eva Pocock a good opportunity to display her vocal powers, and she had a fair amount of success. Other items were the pianoforte solo of Brahms, performed by Miss Violet Hemington the "Die Beiden Grenadiere" (Schumann), sung by Kai Fryd, and the Sonata in D major (Mendelssohn) performed by Sydney Laubach.

MASONS AT WORK.

THE LODGE OF ASAPH.

The Asaphians held their February meeting at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London, on Tuesday last, when the reigning Master, Mr. Frank Lister, was ably assisted by his officers, Messrs. A. B. Tapping, acting as I.P.M.; James Weaver, P.G.Std.B., acting as S.W.; Algernon Rose, acting as J.W.; Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G.Std.B., Treasurer; James W. Mathews, P.A.G.D.C., Secretary; W. Edwyn Holloway, S.D., Geo. Dyball, J.D., E. W. Whitmore, P.M., D.C., Herbert Chenery, P.M., L.R., Assistant Secretary, R. Douglas Cox, I.G., Harry Mathews, acting as Organist, and John Gilbert, T. The Lodge was placed in mourning as a tribute to the memory of the late Mr. W. S. Penley, who was initiated in the Lodge and ultimately became Master. The Rev. W. P. Besley, M.A., Assistant Grand Chaplain of England and Chaplain of the Asaph Lodge, was unanimously elected as one of the Trustees of the Lodge Benevolent Fund to fill the vacancy caused by the lamented death of Mr. Penley. Among the brethren assembled were Messrs. Nicola Coviello, R. P. Black, C. C. McLaren, Edmund Woolhouse, Joseph Batten, and F. Schmitz, and the visitors included Messrs. Henry St. George, Shad Frost, W. J. Crumplin, W. H. Sims, and S. Douglas Cox. Letters of apology, etc., for non-attendance were received from Messrs. Antoine Cloetens, the Organist, and Chris. Hilton, Albert Le Fre, E. H. Bull, and J. D. Beveridge, Past Masters of the Lodge.

The following officers, who were prevented from attending the Lodge meeting, held in November last, when Mr. Frank Lister was installed as Master, being present last Tuesday, were presented and invested with their respective collars of office:—Messrs. Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G. Std.B., as Treasurer, William Edwyn Holloway as J.W., E. W. Whitmore, P.M., as Director of Ceremonies, Harry Lockett as A.D.C., and Oscar Grimaldi 1st Steward.

Mr. Harold Paul Munro Mortimer was admitted to the second stage of his novitiation, he having given highly satisfactory proofs of his proficiency in the first; the ceremony throughout being performed in a very scholarly and impressive manner by Mr. Frank Lister, who afterwards delivered the lecture pertaining to the degree in a manner worthy of the best traditions of the Lodge.

Mr. Lister having expressed his intention of going up as a Steward to the next Festival of the R.M.I.B., a handsome contribution to his list was unanimously voted from the Lodge funds.

At the conclusion of the business of the day the members and their guests proceeded to "Simpson's in the Strand" to dinner. The post-prandial proceedings were of the usual interesting character.

SIR HERBERT TREE AND THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

Sir Herbert and Lady Tree were the guests of the evening at the annual dinner of the professors and friends of the Guildhall School of Music at De Keyser's Royal Hotel, on Feb. 21. Mr. Landon Ronald (the principal) presided, and among those present were Mr. Louis Wild (chairman of the Music Committee of the City Corporation), Mr. John Hassall, Mme. Donalda, Miss Irene Scharrer, Mr. Francis E. Barrett, Mr. Alfred Kalisch, Mr. Emil Sauret, Mrs. Landon Ronald, Dr. Davan Wetton, Mr. Saxe-Wyndham, Mr. and Mrs. F. Joyce Barrett, Mr. Boulcott-Newth, Mr. R. Orlando Morgan, Mr. Wallace Wells, Mme. Rorke, Mr. Edward Iles, Mr. Gregory Hast, Mme. Henson, Mr. Carlos Sobrino, Mr. Arthur Thompson, Mr. Bantock Pierpont, Mr. Waddington Cooke, and others, with the hon. secretary, Mr. F. Harold Hankins.

Mr. Alfred Kalisch having proposed "The Guildhall School of Music," and Mr. Wild having responded, the chairman, in submitting the toast of "The Visitors," referred to the presence of Sir Herbert Tree, and said, "He is one of the sights of London." Probably, if any celebrated foreigner came to London, he would be shown Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's Cathedral, and Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree. The speaker gave an amusing account of how Sir Herbert Tree was once one of his "pupils," when he (Mr. Wild) taught the eminent actor how to hold the bâton when conducting his production of "Beethoven," and also in "Trilby," the result being that in the latter the audience had the happiness of seeing Trilby singing six-eight time while Sir Herbert was beating four to a bar.

Sir Herbert Tree said there was no greater pleasure to one of his profession than to be bidden to the tables where were gathered together his confrères of the musical profession. They always went hand in hand in their camaraderie, which was always inspiring and always grateful. Mr. Ronald had referred to his performance of Beethoven, and had even spoken slightingly of his Svengali—(laughter)—but if he (Sir Herbert), for purposes of his own—(laughter)—did beat four to a bar—whatever that might mean—(loud laughter)—he begged they would believe that that was due more to his artistic conception of the character than to any base ignorance. (Laughter.) To show that he was not lacking in those musical qualities which their host had denied him, he would like to remind them that in the part of Svengali he used to play the piano. (Laughter.) However, he at least came there that evening as a lover of music, which he had been all his life. Throughout the arts, he believed they were returning to increased simplicity. One of the greatest joys of his life was to have played Beethoven. The play was not a public success, but it was one of the pleasantest incidents of his artistic life. A great deal of the success it attained was due to his having had the good fortune to get Mr. Landon Ronald to conduct on the first night. (Cheers.) One of the audience said afterwards that he did not care much for the play, nor for Tree, but he thought Tree had been pretty clever in getting that fellow Ronald to write the music. (Laughter and cheers.)

The toast of "The Chairman" was proposed by Mr. Gregory Hast.

During the evening an admirable entertainment was given by Mme. Donalda, Mr. Ernest Hastings, Mr. Walter Churcher, and Mr. John Hassall.

SUNDAY CONCERTS AT PLYMOUTH.

Mr. J. M. Glover, on behalf of the licensee of the Theatre Royal (Mr. S. Fowler), Plymouth, has written to the Plymouth Watch Committee applying for a renewal of the privilege of giving Sunday concerts at the theatre similar to those given there during February, 1909. The letter stated that the concerts would be under the personal control of Mr. Glover, and the programmes of the same character as those given every Sunday by the National Sunday League.

Mr. Glover attended before the Committee in support of the application, and explained that the concerts would be given on Sunday evening from about Easter to the end of the summer.

The Committee declined to accede to the application.

Applications to open the Theatre [illegible]4, and Andrews' Picture Palace on Good[illegible] granted, subject to no payment [illegible] at the doors and no restriction[illegible] amount of the collection, if any[illegible] the collection must not be [illegible] ence is seated, and the [illegible] must be submitted [illegible] approval.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree, who has a qualification in Shoreditch for a scenery store, nominated on Wednesday, for the L.C.C. election, Miss Alice Willoughby, the Anti-Suffragist Municipal Reform candidate.

Sir George Alexander, who is taking a holiday at Bournemouth, will end the short run of the revival of "The Importance of Being Earnest" at the St. James's on Friday, and on Tuesday, March 11, will produce there a new play in three acts, by A. E. W. Mason entitled "Open Windows," with a cast including, besides himself, Messrs. G. Vivian Reynolds, Reginald Malcolm, Sydney Valentine, A. E. Benedict, H. Templeton, John Ridley, Austin Fehrman, and Misses May Whitty, Irene Vanbrugh, and Rosalie Toller.

Mr. Forbes-Robertson is now reaping the just reward of his always artistic and elevated aims and actions. The dinner which the O.P. Club is going to give him on Sunday, March 16, is certain to be a big success; for amongst the guests will be Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, Miss Ellen Terry, Sir John and Lady Hare, Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, Lady Tree, Lady Alexander, Mr. Alfred Bishop, Miss Kate Rorke, Mr. F. R. Benson, the Duke of Rutland, Mr. E. S. Willard, Miss Gertrude Kingston, Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Irving, Sir Alfred Scott Gatty, Mr. Jerome K. Jerome, Mr. J. M. Gatti, Mr. Hayden Coffin, and Mr. Louis Meyer. The chair will be taken by Mr. Percy Barringer, vice-president of the club.

Among the interesting engagements which Mr. Forbes-Robertson has made for his farewell season at Drury Lane, starting on the 22nd inst., are those of Mr. J. H. Barnes as Polonius in "Hamlet" and Miss Amy Brandon Thomas as Vivian in "The Passing of the Third Floor Back." Many of Mr. Forbes-Robertson's old schoolfellows and masters at the Charterhouse, together with present Carthusians, have signified their intention of attending the performance of "Hamlet" on Wednesday night, April 2. That on Saturday afternoon, March 29, will probably be the only matinée of "Hamlet" Mr. Forbes-Robertson will be able to arrange at Drury Lane.

Mr. James Glover, of Drury Lane, is now convalescent, and looks very well indeed, after his recent sojourn in a nursing home, subsequent to a severe operation. Mr. Glover, whose engagement at Drury Lane continues for several years, will make way during Mr. Forbes Robertson's season for Mr. Percy Fletcher. Mr. Forbes Robertson's own conductor, and will devote his attention, in the interval, to special bookings of Jimmy Glover's Band, and to developing his managing-directorship of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth. In the summer it is Mr. Glover's intention to institute a one-house-nightly vaudeville season—that is to say, a one-act drama, a one-act comic opera, and the rest vaudeville. He will open on Whit Monday with three weeks of the Follies, who will change their bill weekly. Mr. Glover is very proud of the fact that his first dramatic season of seventeen weeks at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, showed an increase of £1,411 over the corresponding weeks of the previous year, followed by a pantomime which took an average of £900 a week for five weeks, and a week of "Peter Pan" which took £1,194 in six nights.

We hear, on good authority, that Mr. Edmund Payne will not leave the Gaiety altogether. It is, indeed, almost certain that he will be in the cast of the piece which follows "Film Magic." There was no part in "Film Magic" suited to Mr. Payne's particular vein of humour, and he did not like the idea of having one "written in"—always an artificial and risky expedient.

"Milestones," having reached and passed its 400th performance, Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie will celebrate on Wednesday the first anniversary of Messrs. Arnold Bennett and Edward Knoblauch's comedy in London by issuing an appropriate souvenir to every member of the audience at the Royalty on that evening.

We regret to hear Mr. Ernest Owttrim is lying very ill in rooms at 1, Jubilee-terrace, Burlington-road, Fulham, having contracted a severe chill which developed into pleurisy. This, following on some months' enforced idleness, makes the position extremely unfortunate, and calls for the sympathy of his friends.

Mr. Bourchier will follow "Trust the People" at the Garrick Theatre with an adaptation of Mr. Temple Thurston's popular novel, "The Greatest Wish in the World," made by the author himself. In this play, which is in a prologue, three acts and five scenes, Mr. Bourchier will appear as Father O'Leary, a character not unlike the charming prelate which he played in "The Bishop's Move" some years ago.

His Majesty the King has graciously accepted a copy of Mr. Weedon Grossmith's book of reminiscences, "From Studio to Stage," recently noticed in "The Era."

One of the most sporting companies touring is Mr. George Edwardes' "Dancing Mistress." There is an athletic club existing, with the general-manager, Mr. K. Draco, as president, which embraces football, golf, hockey, swimming, and a finishing up supper at the end of the tour, which Mr. Edwardes kindly subscribes to. There are a number of members in the company that were in Mr. Edwardes' "Quaker Girl" tours, so that the present club has practically been in existence for over two years.

The cast of "The Handful," a comedy in four acts, by W. Gordon Edwards, which will be produced by Mr. W. Graham Browne on Saturday, at the Prince of Wales Theatre, includes Mr. W. Graham Browne, Mr. C. V. France, Mr. Steff Macdonald, Miss Margaret Bruhling, Mr. John Astley, Mr. Horton Cooper, Mr. George C. Browne, Mr. George Bellamy, Miss Evelyn Beaumont, and Miss Marie Tempest.

Miss Yvonne Arnaud, happily recovered from the slight indisposition which kept her out of the bill of "The Girl in the Taxi," has resumed the leading rôle at the Lyric Theatre, and will in future appear at every performance.

Miss Hilda Bellamy on Tuesday temporarily took up the rôle of Prudence in Mr. George Dance's company of "The Quaker Girl" at the Crystal Palace Theatre in consequence of the indisposition of Miss Adela Crispin. Miss Bellamy has played the part under similar circumstances before, notably at Bury about a fortnight ago, and on this occasion repeated her former success.

Mr. Gaston Meyer will present (by arrangement with Mr. Robert Loraine) at the Duke of ...k's Theatre, on Thursday, the 27th inst., a ...entitled "The Yellow Jacket," by George ...ton and Benrimo, with music by William ...

... will revive "Romeo and Juliet" ... Miss Margaret Halstan in the ... which she scored so highly ... Romeo will be Mr. Dennis ...

Mr. Wentworth Croke will on Monday, March 10, present at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, by arrangement with Mr. Barlow Borland, for the first time in England, Cunning, America's only actor and gaol breaker, in "From Portland to Liberty."

There was a large audience at the Victoria Rooms on Tuesday evening, when the members of the Clifton and Bristol branch of the Empire Shakespeare Society gave a recital of "King Lear." Mr. Acton Bond in the title-rôle infused dramatic force into his reading. The following members took creditable part, the cast being:—King of France, an old man and a doctor, Mr. C. Raymond; Duke of Burgundy, gentleman and messenger, Mr. R. S. Parslew; Duke of Cornwall and a herald, Mr. R. Castle; Duke of Albany, Dr. Barclay Baron; Earl of Kent, Mr. H. N. Matthews; Earl of Gloucester, Mr. P. Baldwin; Edgar, Mr. G. H. Holloway; Edmund, Mr. J. F. Holloway; Fool, Mr. Tabor Davies; Oswald, Mr. M. O. Pragnell; Goneril, Regan, and Cordelia, Miss V. Methley, Miss E. C. Methley, and Miss Simpson. Miss A. D. Lees was in charge of the stage directions.

That the drama, which for the last few years has lain rather dormant in some suburban and provincial theatres, is now gaining a new lease of life is very evident. A further proof that this is so may be gathered from the fact that the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, which has been for the past nine months run as a cinema theatre, has again reverted to its old love—drama. Popular prices now rule, and a seat in the orchestra stalls or circle may be obtained for 1s. Seats as low as 9d. are bookable in advance.

Mr. Leonard Boyne has resumed his part in Mr. Charles Hawtrey's production of "General John Regan" at the Apollo Theatre. Happily the popular actor's defiance of his doctor in rising from a sick bed in order to appear before the King and Queen last week has led to no ill effects.

An amusing incident occurred at the Lyric Theatre during the visit of the King and Queen recently, to witness "The Girl in the Taxi." Mr. C. H. Workman had ordered a new pair of high military boots for the second act, giving implicit instructions that they should be made "snug." He soon realised they were "too snug," as, during the act, they got tighter and tighter. In his dressing-room the united efforts of the dressers failed to remove the boots, and eventually they had to be cut off. Luckily the audience did not realise the undue length of the interval.

Mr. Ernest E. Imeson, at the Court Theatre, Wigan, was recently returned at the top of the poll by a huge majority in a voting competition open to the audience of the performances of "Hindle Wakes" on Feb. 11, 12, 13, and 14, to decide the representative of the "best acted part" in the piece, which was decided to be Mr. Imeson's part of Nat Jeffcote.

Mr. Ardene Linden has been engaged by Mr. George Waters for Billings, the butler, in "The Dust of Egypt."

Mme. Isabel Beresford has written as follows to her husband Mr. Beresford Innes, from the Allan liner "Corsican," when some distance from Nova Scotia:—"'Our Lady of the Snows' seems living up to her reputation as we approach her shores. Snow, blinding snow! We are already two days late, and are going dead slow. For five hours we *stopped*. The passage has been a trying one, but all on the ship are so kind, including the doctor and captain. On Wednesday (5th) we had an awful storm. I watched its fury from the lounge. The boat (11,500 tons) was like a cork on the water, the great seas sweeping over her, and the wind shrieking past us. It was a grand sight. The next day gloriously fine; but, alas! the only fine day. We are nearing the spot where the 'Titanic' went down.

"A few days after that sad event this ship ran against an iceberg, but Captain Cook, going slow, saved the vessel, and his men adore him. He's a canny Scot, like yersel', laddie, and full of fun. The vessel now looks lovely frozen all over and the sun shining on her. But it's bitterly cold." The "Corsican" carried Miss Horniman's company, of which Mme. Beresford is a principal member.

The company landed at Halifax early on Monday, the 16th ult., entrained at once, arrived at Montreal on the 11th at 7.30 p.m., and opened in "The Rivals" at a matinée on the 12th, having an enthusiastic reception.

Mr. Wm. Penrose, who has been connected with various Glasgow theatres for the past half-a-dozen years, has been appointed advance representative for Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton's tour of "Everywoman," and commences his duties this week. Mr. Penrose is well known on tour, through his connection with the D'Oyly Carte and other companies in the past.

Mr. Harry M'Kelvie's touring pantomime, "Mother Hubbard," which has been proving such a phenomenal success everywhere, is on a return visit to the Gaiety, Leith, this week and last. It is intended to bring it to the Royal Princess's, Glasgow, in March, when the run of "Goody Two-Shoes" is concluded there.

The Actresses' Franchise League will give an At Home on Friday, at 3 p.m., in the Grand Hall of the Criterion Restaurant. The speakers will be Professor Bickerton, Mrs. Cecil Chapman, and Mrs. Flora Annie Steel. Miss Cicely Hamilton will be in the chair, and the guests will be received by Miss Eva Moore as hostess for the League.

Mr. Charles Vane has been engaged to produce Miss Sybil Ruskin and Miss Priscilla Craven's one-act play, "A Painted Nun," at the forthcoming representation. The part of the King in Mr. Louis Calvert's performance of "Hamlet" will be undertaken by Mr. Vane.

Mr. Quinlan will open his English season of Grand Opera on April 21, 1913, at Newcastle-on-Tyne. On Monday, May 19, the whole of the company, 165 in number, with 360 tons of baggage, will sail from Liverpool for Cape Town, afterwards visiting Johannesburg. The Australian season opens in Melbourne on Aug. 16, 1913, and the Sydney season in Oct., 1913.

Mr. Martin Harvey's production of "The Taming of the Shrew" will be given for the first time on Tuesday at Hull. The production has been designed by Mr. William Poel and Mr. Martin Harvey, while the costumes and decorations are carried out from drawings by Mr. George Kruger. Mr Harvey as Petruchio will be supported by Miss N. de Silva as Katherina, Mr. Franklin Dyall as Hortensio, Mr. Harry Paulton as Grumio, and Mr. George Cooke as Sly. Owing to the great success of "Œdipus Rex," which still forms the chief attraction of Mr. Martin Harvey's repertory on tour, it is purposed to revive it next Christmas with the addition of the "Œdipus at Colonus" as a second part. This revival will be followed by the production of part or all of the Oresteian trilogy of Æschylus, of which work Professor Gilbert Murray has already undertaken the translation.

Mr. W. W. Kelly's spring dramatic season commences at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on Monday in brilliant style, the inaugural booking being the Russian Imperial Ballet company in a series of the most acclaimed Covent Garden successes. The triumphs of Mme. Anna Pavlova last season at the Fraser-street house proved to Mr. W. W. Kelly, the managing-director, that Russian ballet of the highest type is a form of entertainment very much enjoyed by the public. "Peter Pan" will make its reappearance at the Shakespeare Theatre on Monday, March 10, with Miss Pauline Chase as Peter.

The Benson Shakespearean company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Herbert, is to hold the stage at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, next week. Mr. Herbert will be supported by Miss Gladys Vanderzee, and the company includes a large number of clever "Bensonians," among them being Mr. Charles Warburton, Mr. Basil Rathbone, Mr. Horace Brahan, and Mr. John Cairns. The Shakespearean plays promised are "The Comedy of Errors," which will be preceded by Milton's masque of "Comus," on Tuesday, "Twelfth Night" (Wednesday afternoon), "Othello" (Thursday night), and "As You Like It" (Saturday afternoon). On Monday evening "If I Were King" will be presented, and will be repeated on Wednesday and Saturday nights. On Friday evening "Queen Tara" will be staged.

Birkenhead playgoers next week are to have on offer at the New Theatre Royal Mr. George Edwardes' company in the Daly's Theatre success, "The Count of Luxembourg." The company includes Mr. Mark Lester, Mr. Ralph Roberts, Mr. Dundas Walker, Mr. Nigel Barrie, Miss Vera Sinclair, Miss Lena Hicks, Miss Gertrude Anderton, and Miss Mabel Twemlow.

Mr. W. W. Kelly is, we are sorry to hear, still confined to his room, and his leg in still in "plaster of Paris," but his doctor thinks he may be able to get about in a fortnight or so.

Mr. Henry Ades is organising (by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman) a tour of "The Concert" in April. He will play the principal part himself.

"The Son and Heir" company, including Miss Ethel Irving, Miss Ethel Dane, Mr. Norman Trevor, and Mr. Edmund Maurice, gave a matinée performance at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, yesterday, and travelled by the Great Western Company's express trains, which performed the journey of 118½ miles in two hours. Dinner was served en route. The company returned for the performance at the Strand Theatre the same evening.

"The Merry Wives of Windsor" will be repeated as a dramatic reading by the British Empire Shakespeare Society, by request, to-morrow evening, at the Passmore Edwards' Settlement, Tavistock-place, at 8.30 p.m. It will be given with the same cast as on Jan. 27 last. A certain number of free seats are available up to a quarter of an hour before the reading.

"A Lad's Love" is to be the attraction at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, next week. The play is described as "a true romance of a present-day young man," and will be presented by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company, which includes Miss Lilian Earle and Mr. Herbert Vere in the principal parts.

Mr. Lionel Rignold and Mr. Charles Macdona, with "Fanny's First Play," are paying a return visit to the Grand Theatre, Croydon, on March 10. "Fanny" has been immensely successful in the country, and has been secured by Messrs. Murray King and Clark at Eastbourne for their Easter attraction, this being the third visit to the Devonshire Park Theatre of this play within a period of ten months.

Mr. P. Hunt-Lewis has been engaged by Messrs. Alick Chumley and A. Russell Davis to play Captain Charles Carew, A.D.C., in "His Excellency the Governor" and Eustace in "Sweet and Twenty."

We regret to learn that Mr. Edwin T. Heys, of "Hindle Wakes" fame, is lying ill at his Stockport home suffering from influenza.

Mr. Allan Aynesworth has chosen Wednesday for the first performance of "Bought and Paid For," an American play by George Broadhurst, at the New Theatre. It is in four acts, and is described as a serious play with a strong comedy interest. The cast includes, besides Mr. Aynesworth, Mr. Frank Craven, Mr. Giro Kim, Mr. Cecil Rose, Miss Alexandra Carlisle, Miss Alice Crawford, and Miss Sonia Boucard. The time is the present, and the action takes place in New York City.

Mr. Alfred Robbins, one of the most popular and eloquent members of the O.P. Club, will discourse on Sunday evening on the curious question, "Ought Actors to Act?" Miss Nina Boucicault, one of the most quaint and original of our comedy actresses, will take the chair.

Mr. J. W. Friedlander, 819, Second Avenue, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A., desires information concerning the whereabouts of Miss Ray Rockman, an American actress, who came over here with an American company some ten years ago. Her mother, Mrs. Rockman, died in San Francisco some years ago, leaving money on deposit in one of the banks there, and it now amounts to a good sum.

Miss Ada Reeve has made such a success at the variety halls in England, America, and South Africa, that it is sometimes forgotten that she is a bright and clever actress, and began by playing children's parts in melodrama at the East End. She now proposes to return to the regular theatre and to musical comedy. She will have a London season with the three-act comedy, "Winnie Brooke, Widow," in which she appeared at the Criterion in 1904. This, after its revival in the West End, will be done at one of Klaw and Erlanger's principal Broadway theatres in the autumn, by Miss Reeve and a company of English artistes. The part of the widow was one of Miss Reeve's cleverest creations.

Miss Nellie Le Breton, who has just concluded a six months' engagement with Messrs. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath, playing Mujo-Ko-San in the "Mousmé," and principal girl in their pantomime, "Mother Goose," at the Woolwich, &c., has been engaged by Mr. Leon Salberg to play principal girl at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, next year, and at Nottingham the year following. Miss Le Breton commences a 25 weeks' tour with Mr. Harry Leslie's Gay Lieutenants in April.

Miss Beatrice Wilson, who made such a success with Mr. Norman V. Norman in F. B. Wingate's powerful sketch, "The Open Question," has been engaged to play the Painted Nun in Priscilla Craven and Sybil Ruskin's play of that name. "The Painted Nun" is the play selected by Messrs. Martin Harvey and Granville Barker, and will be produced by the Lyceum Club at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Wednesday, March 12.

Mr. W. Clarkson made a large number of the most beautiful dresses which were worn at the Chelsea Arts Club ball on Wednesday.

PINERO AT THE VAUDEVILLE.

On Tuesday, Feb. 25, revival of the Farce in Three Acts, by Arthur Wing Pinero, entitled "THE SCHOOL MISTRESS."

The Hon. Vere Queckett..Mr. Dion Boucicault
Rear-Admiral Archibald Rankling, C.B. ..Mr. Edmund Gwenn
Lieutenant John Mallory..Mr. Ronald Squire
Mr. John Saunders.....Master C. Saint-Eve
Mr. Reginald Paulover..Mr. Stafford Hilliard
Mr. Otto Bernstein.....Mr. Walter Westwood
Tyler .....Mr. Archie McCaig
Goff .....Mr. Douglas Munro
Jaffray .....Mr. Oliver G. Johnston
Miss Dyott .....Miss Winifred Emery
Mrs Rankling .....Miss Gwynne Herbert
Dinah .....Miss Muriel Martin Harvey
Gwendoline Hawkins .....Miss Nell Carter
Ermyntrude Johnson .....Miss Crissy Bell
Peggy Hesslerigge.....Miss Hilda Trevelyan
Jane Chipman .....Miss Lilian Mason

When Mr.—now Sir—Arthur Pinero wrote "The Schoolmistress," he was not quite thirty-one. The year before he had produced "The Magistrate," the first of the delightful series of comedy-farces which included "The Hobby Horse" and "Dandy Dick." The piece, of course, "dates" decidedly, and the technique is in parts almost antiquated. As a work of art, judged by the severer standards of criticism, "The Schoolmistress" is inferior to "The Magistrate." The action does not march on with such absurd, yet perfectly natural, progression, from extravagance to extravagance, piling situation on situation to the end. A good deal in "The Scholmistress" is pure and unadulterated farce; almost all "The Magistrate" was composed of real, though extravagant, comedy. But "The Schoolmistress" is full of pure, unadulterated fun. It would make the basis of a first-rate musical comedy.

The production of the play at the Court Theatre in the March of 1886 is connected in most playgoers' memories with the performance of the part of the mischievous governess, Peggy Hesslerigge, by Miss Rose Norreys, whose unhappy loss of intellect led the editor of this paper to start a fund for her benefit. Of the original cast one, Mr. Albert Chevalier, who played Otto Bernstein, remains high in popular estimation, the list including Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. John Clayton, Mr. H. Eversfield, Mr. Lugg, Miss Emily Cross, and Mrs. John Wood, who played Miss Dyott.

The "hero" of "The Schoolmistress" is the Hon. Vere Queckett, a gentleman who holds, in relation to Miss Dyott, the principal of Volumnia College, a school for girls, somewhat the same position as that enjoyed by the immortal Mr. Mantalini. Finding that her husband's extravagance exceeds the bounds of her income, Miss Dyott resolves, unknown to her husband, to go on the stage in a comic opera composed by a certain Otto Bernstein. One of Miss Dyott's—or, rather, Mrs. Queckett's—pupils, Dinah Ranklin, the daughter of a savage old sea-dog, Rear-Admiral Archibald Rankling, has been privately married to a callow youth called Reginald Paulover, whose proposal for her hand was the cause of Dinah being immured in the supposedly safe seclusion of Volumnia College.

Such is the situation of affairs and individuals when the frisky Queckett decides to give a supper to his friend Lieut. John Mallory, and a few other "chums." This supper is to take place while Mrs. Queckett is away ostensibly on business, but really appearing on the stage. A telegram arranging this gathering is seen by a lively little governess, Peggy Hesslerigge, who by holding threats of exposure over Queckett makes him invite also to the supper Dinah and her youthful husband, and two other shcool-girls, Gwendoline Hawkins and Ermyntrude Johnson. The supper duly takes place in the second act, and here the fun grows farcical, without, however, being "fast" in the "slang" sense of the word. By an accident the Rear-Admiral is brought to the supper; and, as Dinah and her young husband are also present, it is fortunate that Sir Archibald has been too long at sea to recognise his daughter's face. The act ends with a general dance, in the midst of which a servant rushes in with the news that the boy in buttons has set the house on fire by playing with fireworks. The fire brigade arrives, and the pupils escape by one window just as Mrs. Queckett, attired as a queen of comic opera, enters by another. The third act is written in the same spirit of free, untrammelled fun, and proves very much to the taste of an audience already put into excellent humour by the drolleries of the preceding divisions of the play.

It is a trying ordeal for a company of modern actors and actresses to appear in a piece which has all the "mannerisms" of dramatic writing in 1886; and the company at the Vaudeville on Tuesday were evidently extremely nervous. This feeling, however, had only the effect of spurring them to extra exertions; and certainly the result was most satisfactory. Mr. Dion Boucicault's part of the Hon. Vere Queckett fitted him like a glove. He was admirably made up to suggest the "finicking" smartness of the idle gentleman who has, as he says, "married a boarding school," and he dressed the character to perfection. The wheedling, coaxing, caressing style of Mrs. Queckett's husband was admirably supplied by Mr. Boucicault, whose silky tones and delicate endearments were very daintily done. Most amusing were the scenes between Mr. Boucicault and Miss Winifred Emery as Miss Dyott. Miss Emery combined the requisites for the part—sufficient authority to suggest the schoolmistress and sufficient comeliness to make her appearance in light opera possible. The soft and sentimental side of the character was emphasised by Miss Emery in her love passages with Queckett, and self-respecting dignity was well suggested in the rest of the reading. It should be mentioned that Miss Emery wore a black silk costume of the period when the play was produced, and she bore the trying test extremely well. A pronounced "dress-improver" was borne by Miss Gwynne Herbert, who gave most amusing expression to the gentle submissiveness of Mrs Rankling, the irascible Admiral being impressively and most comically portrayed by Mr. Edmund Gwenn, whose stertorous grunts and wheezes, combined with a make-up suggestive of imminent apoplexy, evoked hearty laughter, and made the Admiral's savage sayings and doings intensely funny. Miss Muriel Martin Harvey struck just the right note as the child-bride Dinah. She did not overdo the ingenuousness, and she was absolutely fresh, refined, and young-lady-like, besides looking chastely pretty. Miss Hilda Trevelyan was the acme of activity and vivacity as Peggy Hesslerigge. It was impossible for any of the scenes in which she appeared to flag for a moment; and she was well supported by Miss Nell Carter and Miss Crissy Bell as the two schoolgirls, Gwendoline Hawkins and Ermyntrude Johnson. A picturesque performance of the slightly conventional part of Otto Bernstein was contributed by Mr. Walter Westwood, Mr. Ronald Squire was a very personable and pleasant representative of Lieutenant John Mallory, and Mr. Stafford Hilliard gave a very agreeable and amusing performance of the part of Mr. Reginald Paulover. Miss Lilian Mason's Jane Chipman was a very realistic picture of a "general," and a quite odd and quaint embodiment of the pert and precocious page Tyler was given by Mr. Archie McCaig; Master C. Saint-Eve, being very good indeed as Mr. John Saunders.

Fortunately for the fate of the revival, comparatively few of those who saw "The Schoolmistress" at the Court in 1886 were present at the Vaudeville on Tuesday, so the effect on the audience of the excellent acting was not affected by those intrusive memories of "original" performances which are apt to mar the enjoyment of elderly playgoers with good memories. "The Schoolmistress" created roars of laughter, went with a "wet sail" from start to finish, and had a most cordial reception. It was preceded by the kerbstone episode, by A. Neil Lyons and Henry Seton, entitled "A Penny Bunch," in which Miss Esmé Hubbard gave a realistically comic, yet not unpathetic, reading of the part of the flower-seller, Poppy Dyke. Mr. George Desmond was graphically cockney as Beery, and Miss Lilian Mason as the elderly proletarian Sarah Moon was very effectively grotesque.

"SEVEN DAYS."

"Comedy of Terrors," Written by Mary Roberts Rinehart and Avery Hopwood, Produced at Grand Opera House, Harrogate, on Saturday, Feb. 22.

Jimmie Wilson ..... Mr. James Welch
Tom Harbison ..... Mr. Vivian Gilbert
Dallas Brown ..... Mr. James Lindsay
Flannigan ..... Mr. H. Lempriere Pringle
The Burglar ..... Mr. J. H. Brewer
A Footman ..... Mr. Harry Agar Lyons
Bella Knowles (late Wilson) Miss Audrey Ford
Kitty McNair ..... Miss Marie Hemingway
Anne Brown ..... Miss Athene Seyler
Miss Carruthers (Auntie)..Miss Ada Blanche

A wife who divorces her husband on account of his ever-increasing girth forms the motif of this latest American importation in the way of farce. Jimmie Wilson, at the start of the play, has lost 20lbs. in weight since his divorce, and is telling his friend, Dallas Brown, his joy at this, and his general sense of freedom. Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Brown and a Miss Kitty McNair are at his house, having been invited to a dinner party, and there is also bidden a Mr. Tom Harbison. Just previous to the time dinner is announced, a telegram arrives to herald the arrival of Miss Carruthers (Auntie). Auntie is a person to be greatly feared, for it is from her generosity and her large allowance that Jimmie owes his comfortable time. Jimmie is in great fear of Auntie, and especially so as she has not been told of his divorce from Bella.

Something must be done at once, so Jimmie asks Kitty McNair if she will pretend to be his wife for an hour or two—only till 10.10 p.m.; Auntie is going then. Kitty consents, and enter Auntie. As she has never seen Bella, the deception is more or less easy, but several very awkward situations and questions have to be glossed over. A servant—a Chinese cook—has been taken ill in the basement, and has been removed to the hospital suffering from some unpronounceable complaint. Just at that moment Bella Knowles (late Wilson) enters, to know why the ambulance is at the door, and, having to beat a speedy exit on account of Jimmie's entrance, she goes into the kitchen. Before Auntie has time to get out of the house to catch her 10.10 p.m., the police enter, and inform all and sundry, including a burglar (who has been in hiding all the act), that they are quarantined for seven days at the least—perhaps a month. So ends the first act.

The second act is given up to the efforts of everyone to make themselves useful in the home, superintended by Auntie. Bella Knowles, having taken refuge in the coal-hole, is rescued by Jimmie, who finds that after all he loves her still. Tom Harbison and Kitty McNair are also in love, but he, believing her to be Jimmie's wife, has been struck by the charms of Bella. It is decided that Auntie be disguised and try to escape, and to this end she is pushed through the area window, only to be rapidly replaced by the police. The third act on the roof of the house shows the efforts of Jimmie to reduce his weight with boxing, running, and a Turkish portable bath, the pangs of hunger of everyone being allayed by crumpets pulled up from the street in a clothes basket. The announcement from the police that the quarantine period is over is hailed by all with great delight, and Bella remains, having discovered that she loves Jimmie in spite of his avoirdupois.

This is briefly the story of "Seven Days." A fat man is often the butt of humour, and here again we have the familiar theme. Mr. Jas. Welch as Jimmie Wilson was Jas. Welch the inimitable, and doubtless in time will make a very funny part of it. Miss Audrey Ford as Bella Knowles looked charming, played well, and made the most of her opportunities. Miss Ada Blanche as Auntie was excellent, especially in the first act, which is far and away the best of the play. Miss Athene Seyler as Mrs. Dallas Brown was alike excellent, especially in her drunken scene. Mr. Jas. Lindsay as Dallas Brown was good, and Miss Marie Hemingway was pretty and pleasing as Kitty McNair. Mr. Vivian Gilbert gave a smart performance as Tom Harbison. Mr. J. H. Brewer played a burglar in a satisfactory manner, and Mr. Lempriere Pringle as an Irish policeman full of dignity was excellent. The play was admirably dressed and mounted, and went very well indeed. In response to repeated calls Mr. Welch thanked the audience for their cordial reception, and claimed their indulgence for any first night failing.

As the report has gained currency that Miss Ruth Bower—who, it will be readily recalled, played so engagingly and cleverly the part of Sadie in "Officer 666" at the Globe Theatre—is contemplating visiting the United States very shortly, we are desired by Miss Bower to state she intends to remain in London for some few months. What is New York's loss will therefore be London's gain.

Miss Margaret Swallow, the charming young actress and vocalist who has lately been playing in "Princess Caprice" at the Shaftesbury Theatre, is again taking up Miss Florence Smithson's part of Sombra on tour in Mr. Robert Courtneidge's perenially popular play, "The Arcadians." A start is being made at Aberdeen on Monday next, and as Miss Swallow has most successfully played the exacting part of Sombra upon 250 occasions, it will be readily understood the young actress will afford every satisfaction in this rôle to our friends over the Border.

A meeting of the committee of the Touring Managers' Association was held on the 21st ult. Present:—Mr. A. Bertram (in the chair), Mr. Frank Weathersby, Mr. Herbert Ralland, Mr. E. Graham Falcon, Mr. E. Taylor Platt, Mr. William Giffard, Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson (hon. solicitor), Mr. Wentworth Croke, Mr. Sam Livesey, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, and Mr. Montgomery Martin (secretary). A letter was received from a member, complaining that he is unable to get back his MS. music and parts of a play from an agency, and the secretary was directed to write to the agents concerned asking that the matter be attended to at once. A member complained that one of his company was refused medical benefits under the Act last week, with the result that he had to pay the ordinary fee although he holds a fully-stamped card, and the secretary was directed to again write to the Insurance Commissioners asking for a reply to the letters sent them on Nov. 11 last, 7th ult., and 13th ult., in reference to the matter.

MARTIN HARVEY AT BRADFORD

Mr. Martin Harvey, with Mrs. Harvey and the members of their company, were entertained at dinner at the Great Northern Hotel by the Bradford Playgoers' Society on Sunday evening, before Mr. Harvey's lecture at the St. George's Hall, Bradford. Sir George Scott Robertson, M.P., presided.

The chairman proposed the health of Mr. Martin Harvey. In Bradford, he said, they liked to think that their guest was in some way or another one of themselves. At any rate, Mr. Harvey was a nephew of their very good friend, Dr. Goyder, and he (the speaker) was delighted that the Bradford Playgoers' Society had been so fortunate as to have him that evening as their guest.

Mr. Martin Harvey, who was very cordially received, said it was a delightful coincidence that enabled him to be present to offer the Bradford Playgoers' Society his warm congratulations on the first anniversary of its foundation. Just a year ago he and his company produced "Pelleas and Melisande" at the Theatre Royal. "I wonder," he added, "if your sensations after the exhibition of that play are still punctuated with the notes of interrogation you then appeared to feel. (Laughter.) The work in question puzzled some of your fellow-citizens and enraged others. (Laughter.) I am glad to see, by the ample evidence of this gathering, that it afforded many people in the city the keen pleasure it always affords us. I feel that your sympathies and mine are bound together with a strong and beautiful link—if you will permit me to say so, a Maeterlinck. (Laughter.) 'Pelleas and Melisande' created quite a controversy in the columns of your Press, and out of that controversy emerged that hale and hearty babe whose first birthday party is being celebrated to-night." (Applause.) He noticed that the infant had already developed the digestive powers of an intellectual ostrich. It had thrived on a generous diet of Shakespeare, on the Norwegian anchovies of Ibsen, the gentlemanly relish of Wilde, the plasmon of Galsworthy, and last, but not least, on Dr. Bernard Shaw's soothing syrup. (Laughter and applause.)

Turning to the subject of the municipal theatre, upon which he was to lecture later in the evening, Mr. Harvey said that all who supported the art of the theatre, either from within or without, had great cause to rejoice that they were living in such a progressive and productive epoch. The Bradford Playgoers' Society represented a great public expression of the spirit which was the corollary of the reform now at work inside the theatre. If he, to the best of his ability, represented the supply, the society represented the demand, and if anything was demanded long enough and earnestly enough the supply was always forthcoming. Nothing could be more encouraging and stimulating to those responsible for the supply in matters of art than to know that however good was the last thing they produced the public would require something still better.

The movement which the Playgoers' Society represented aimed at forcing up the standard of the dramatic work which the theatre afforded its public. In not a few cities playgoers' societies had started, and were maintaining, repertory theatres to supply their own dramatic wants instead of waiting for the chance arrival of the works they desired from London. The principle was admirable, and its effect on the general level and tone of the English theatre had been great. In future it would be greater. Cities would vie with each other in dramatic production just as the great cities of the north now vied with each other in their musical festivals. In Bradford, however, they were going for the most permanent and practical of all schemes—a municipal theatre. He entertained the liveliest hope that, seeing they had had the enterprise to initiate the idea of a municipal theatre, they might also enjoy the merited glory of achieving their object before any competitor could rob them of priority. It would be a proud day for Bradford when it set a lead in this matter, because he was convinced all England would follow. If to realise a municipal theatre was to be the life-work of that most promising infant, the Bradford Playgoers' Society, then the society would surely be immortalised.

Mr. R. Foster proposed the health of the chairman and of Lady Godwin. Bradford, he said, had been on the actor-managers' black list, and the fault was largely that of Bradford people themselves. This was a condition of things which the Playgoers' Society hoped to alter.

The toast was cordially honoured, the Chairman briefly responding.

A HOPEFUL LECTURE.

Mr. Harvey afterwards addressed a well-attended meeting at St. George's Hall on "The Hope of the Future." The meeting had been organised for the Bradford Playgoers' Society by Mr. A. T. Sutton, secretary to the Independent Labour Party in Bradford. Sir George Scott Robertson, M.P., presided, and among those present were Mrs. Harvey, Lady Godwin, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Moser, Mr. S. P. Unwin, Mr. and Mrs. Emile Moser, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hart, Mr. R. Lishman, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Richardson, Professor A. F. Barker, Mr. Rennie Foster, and Mr. Thomas Howard.

Sir George Scott Robertson apologised for the absence, through indisposition, of Mr. Sydney Carter, who had been advertised to preside.

Mr. Harvey, having referred to the controversy as a result of which the Bradford Playgoers' Society was formed, said it would give Mr. Maeterlinck endless pleasure to know that the seed sown by his mystical romance of "Pelleas and Melisande" had taken root and blossomed as it had. The realisation of the ideal of a municipal theatre, proceeded Mr. Harvey, might assist the realisation of the ideal to which many were looking as to a sure hope—the establishment in the capital city of the Empire of a great endowed theatre erected to the memory and honour of William Shakespeare. (Applause.) He was proud to be advocating the cause of the municipal theatre in Bradford because his master, Sir Henry Irving, who ended the tale of his career in that city, only a few days before his death delivered his last public speech in Bradford on that very subject. In order to determine the function which the arts should perform and the scope they should enjoy in the body politic, it was first necessary to estimate, however generally, the function they performed and the scope they enjoyed in the individual soul. For the function of the body politic, as represented over a specific area in the form of a municipality, was to facilitate the enjoyment of the fullest social life and individual happiness and well-being of each citizen by the co-operative action of all. (Applause.) But in this materialistic age the error was often made of confusing life with livelihood. Getting a living was by no means synonymous with life.

The faculty from which the human race had always derived its keenest and finest happiness was the faculty of imagination. (Hear, hear.) By the imagination man put out into the great ocean of the unknown on voyages of exploration. Those brave voyages of discovery every man knew, for they were the common right of the race. Even children made them. But the conditions of modern town life tended to infect the vessels with dry rot and to take the mariner's goodly art out of brains which were too severely preoccupied with driving the great machine. That was precisely why the dwellers in towns stood in greatest need of all those arts which fed, recreated, and rescued the immortal faculty. Every man had in him the [illegible] of an artist or craftsman, but, as [illegible] dictated, the more considerable [illegible] of a [illegible] artistic music, unique were effected by specialists in [illegible] company of "Ragged Citizens, would not represent the whole field of activity practised by its citizens unless it gave a large measure of attention to facilitating the enjoyment of the arts, crafts, and recreations common to all sound men. (Applause.)

"The theatre," continued Mr. Harvey, "is the door by which the average man enters the land of imagination." It was the vehicle by which the human mind exercised one of its necessary functions. Strangely enough, it was precisely that great vehicle of culture and happiness that was entirely omitted from the objects of municipal endowment. Millions of people visited theatres in the course of a year. How many visited art galleries and museums? Museums were not the people's road to culture. They were erected by the whole community for the good of the highly-educated minority. "The theatre," said Mr. Harvey, "is of the people—the one truly democratic institution of all time. And this is the institution which all municipal effort in this country has passed by." It could not be said that the theatre did not need help from the municipality or that the work of social enlightenment did not need help from the theatre. The theatre had in it the possibility of being the most powerful, direct, and popular influence for good the world had ever seen.

There were only two pleas which, if true, justified logically the ignoring of the theatre by the governing bodies. First, it might be said that there was an inherent difference between the dramatic and other arts which made the exploitation of the drama necessarily a matter for private finance. The public got what they wanted, and "everybody was satisfied." This proposition ignored the fact that drama was an art and was entitled to an artistic and not a commercial ideal—(applause)—and it rested on the assumption that the judgment of the ordinary workaday public was artistically right and infallible. In a word, it was suggested that drama should pay. Who asked that the National Gallery or British Museum should pay? It was argued that the demand created the play; but if the best were to be got in art the supply of the highest and best should precede and create the demand. Art should not follow but lead public opinion. (Applause.)

Mr. Harvey went on to refer to Sir Henry Irving, whose life, he said, was shortened by the incessant strain which the English theatrical system imposed on one who combined the responsibilities of an artiste with the anxiety of a manager. Sir Henry had desired to bring the very best plays within the reach of the very poorest people, and had a project—which he would have carried out had he lived—of making a tent to accommodate 6,000 or 10,000 people, which he would take through the manufacturing districts of the country, producing the great plays. The second objection that might be urged against the drama was that, so far from receiving endowment, it should be discountenanced and discouraged. That view should not be ignored, but the main body of opinion in England had obviously abandoned it.

Mr. Harvey proceeded to speak of the probable cost of such a theatre as he had been dealing with. Assuming that the theatre was rent free, and there was a stock company in permanent commission for forty weeks in the year, the weekly expenditure, to include salaries of actors, staff, directorship, stage-manager, front-of-the-house staff, printing, advertising, removal and storage of scenery, insurance, depreciation, and sundries, would be about £400. The presumption was that the theatre would not pay. If the deficit were £100 a week the munipicality would have to find £4,000 a year, which, he believed, represented a rate of five-eighths of a penny in the pound.

SONGS OF THE HEBRIDES.

Explanations and illustrations of Hebridean songs were agreeably mingled at the Little Theatre on Thursday afternoon, when Miss Jean Sterling Macinlay began another series of her folk-song matinées before a well-filled house, Miss Macinlay sang with her accustomed charm, and Mr. Harcourt Williams added to the entertainment of the afternoon by his brief explanatory notes. Local folk-song, we were told, was due to the workpeople. In the Hebrides labour and song go hand in hand, and there are songs for all descriptions of industry. There are the spinning songs, weaving songs, churning songs, and walking songs, the last mentioned being employed in the process of shrinking the homespun cloth, which entails a good deal of peregrination on the part of the workers. So closely is melody allied to work, indeed, that it is customary to ask, not how many hours a task will take, but how many songs it will employ.

The list of Hebridean songs selected as examples was remarkably varied, and full expression was given to their different characteristics by Miss Sterling Macinlay, whose finely modulated voice was employed with artistic skill. Thus the mysticism of "The seagull of the Land-under-Waves" was cleverly conveyed, as was that of "The death farewell"; while the joyousness and gaiety of "The silver whistle," a Jacobite song, calling the Gaels to Prince Charlie's side, formed the necessary contrast.

Other folk-songs figured in the programme, the familiar "Charlie is my darling," the wailing air of "The willow tree," a Hampshire lament; the love lyric, "The Birks of Aberfeldie," and "The song of the ghost," all being given their special significance. "The green wedding," the well-known, "Oh, dear, what can the matter be?" and "The sheep-shearing song" were among the other selections of Miss Macinlay. Mr. Harcourt Williams chose George Meredith's "Crown of love" and "A sonnet" for recitation, and delivered them with excellent emphasis and judgment. Excellent assistance to the songs was rendered by Mr. Kenneth Macinlay at the piano. The matinées will be repeated on March 6 and 13.

At the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, next week St. John Hankin's clever comedy, "The Return of the Prodigal," will be staged again. Mr. Lewis Casson will play his old part of Henry Jackson, the elder brother, Mr. Eliot Makeham that of Eustace Jackson, the prodigal, Mr. H. F. Maltby will take the part of Samuel Jackson, the father, Miss Lola Duncan will play Mrs. Jackson, Miss Sybil Thorndike will play her old part of Lady Faringford, Miss Lilian Cavanagh will take the part of Stella Faringford, Violet Jackson will be played by Miss Muriel Pratt, and Dr. Glaisher by Mr. Brember Wills. "Old Heidelburg" will be produced on Monday, March 10, and played for ten performances.

The first establishment of a regular playhouse in Drury-lane took place in the year 1663, when Sir William Davenant, having erected a theatre on the site of the old cockpit, the King's company removed thither from their house in Gibbon's Tennis-court, Clare Market, and as appears from the following bill, commenced their performances on April 8, 1663, with Beaumont and Fletcher's "Humorous Lieutenant," which was performed for twelve nights:

By His Majesty's Company of Comedians.
At the New Theatre in Drvry Lane.
This day, being Thvrsday, April 8th, 1663,
Will be acted, A Comedy call'd
THE HVMOVROVS LIEVTENANT.
The King, Mr. Wintersel, Demetrivs, Mr. Hart.
Selecvcs, Mr. Bvrt, Leontivs, Major Mohvn.
Lievtenant, Mr. Clvn.—Celia, Mrs. Marshall.
The Play will begin at Three o'clock exactly.
Boxes, 4s. Pit, 2s. 6d. Middle Gallery, 1s. 6d.
Vpper Gallery, 1s.

FOUR NEW PLAYS AT THE BLACK CAT CLUB.

True to their nocturnal characteristics the Black Cat Club's meeting at the New Rehearsal Theatre on Feb. 24 extended to a late hour. But those who assisted at this feast of reason were not given the worse wine as the night wore on, for the concluding scena, "The Dream Woman," by Ena Hay Howe, in conception, dialogue, and execution, was a thoroughly interesting item, made convincing by the emotional acting of Mr. Denis E. Watson as Einas Torwaldesen, the vain, egotistical poet, who is nervously pacing his poor living-room awaiting the arrival of the post, presumably anxious as to the fate of his latest MS., and selfishly regardless of the claims of his two children and his wife, Tora, who sits planning and mending for all till late into the night. She urges him to accept an offered and lucrative lectureship, but with reproaches that she does not understand him, he confesses that the letter he is awaiting should contain the address of the sympathetic authoress, "Dagmar," who, he is sure, will be a kindred soul. After unsuccessfully imploring him not to seek to know this woman, his wife leaves him to open the letter, which discloses that she herself is Dagmar—a "dumb soul" driven by the necessity of providing for her husband and children to give form to her thoughts. With this knowledge comes a certain amount of self-revelation to the poet, the lectureship is accepted, and husband and wife reunited. Miss Edith Carter acted with restrained feeling and intelligence as the tardily understood wife, Tora, and materially contributed to the success of the piece.

In the first play of the evening, "As Dreams are Made Of," by Wilfrid Stephens, Mr. Denis E. Watson again had a part suited to his fervid and intense style in the character of the visionary artist, Hugh Conway, painting his great picture from his ideal of the pure, fresh young girl, Evelyn, whom he had petted and worshipped in earlier days, but who is now studying in Paris. On a recent visit to the Gay City he has seen his best friend Dick Morton and his former playfellow in a café together, and when taxed with the fact on their return it does not need Dick's assurance that she is not worth his regret to convince him what she has become. Whilst still discussing the matter Evelyn is announced, and Dick goes into the adjoining room. The disillusioned and bitter Hugh receives his visitor, who wishes to resume the old relations and to see the famous picture. But, angry at being found out, and confronted with the presentiment of herself as she might have been and as she is, her light love is turned to hatred, and, furiously attacking the picture with a knife, she bursts into hysterical tears, and, going off with Dick Morton, leaves the artist to the wreck of his spiritual and material hopes. Miss Jeanne Stuarte played cleverly and with spirit as the transformed Evelyn, and Mr. C. E. V. Fletcher was quite adequate to the part of Dick, Miss Brunette Blaiberg doing good work as the landlady, Mrs. Cloves.

"The Feminologist," a potted melodrama in two scenes, by Mariell Reed, introduces an ill-assorted house-party at Lady Romer's, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Dene, an acquaintance of the latter, De Bouville, a mysterious, epigrammatic stranger, Silas Marston, on whom the hostess casts a favourable eye, and Miss Pinnell. De Bouville renews his relations with the dissatisfied bride, Mrs. Dene, and arranges an elopement during the progress of the ball the same night. In the second scene Mrs. Dene, full of the news of the robbery of a guest's diamonds in the conservatory, is preparing for flight with De Bouville when disturbed by Silas Marston. Covered by the former's revolver, it is a case of "hands up" whilst Mrs. Dene searches his discarded overcoat for firearms. None being found he is allowed to lower his arms and resume his coat, which gives him an opportunity of producing his own "shooting iron," and, the tables being turned on his captor, Marston reveals himself as a private detective, and in the presence of the hostess and her guests the diamonds are produced from the pocket of the would-be eloper. To avoid scandal he is allowed to escape, and a sadder and wiser Mrs. Dene returns to her unsuspecting husband. Miss Carina McAllister acted easily and humorously as Lady Romer, her disappointment at the failure of her matrimonial hopes of Silas Marston being cleverly indicated. She was the recipient of some beautiful flowers. Miss Mona Maughan gave an intense and sympathetic rendering of the part of foolish Mrs. Dene; Mr. C. E. V. Fletcher was effective as the Frenchman, De Bouville; and Mr. Frederic Morena acted smartly as the detective, Marston.

"Merely Players," a smart little lyrical comedy in one act, by Frank Macrae, the music by Mary Maryon, was danced and sung through in just the right spirit by Miss Anne Matson as Dulcie Golightly of the Jollity Theatre, "gently born," frank and free, who is sought in marriage by a gilded youth, Gilbert Goldacre. She will not consent to become an unwelcome member of his family, but his mother's (Lady Goldacre) visit of inspection to the Golightly's flat is followed by a recognition of Dulcie's (sometimes intemperate) father as an old sweetheart, and all ends happily. This slight story serves to carry several pleasing songs, duets, and dances. Mr. Denis E. Cowles sang effectively and acted naturally as Gilbert, his duet and dance with Dulcie being tuneful and pretty. Mr. Arthur Hare was well made-up as the actor "with a past," Golightly, and Miss Ella Daincourt was very successful as the "widow of a general officer," Lady Goldacre. Selections by the Black Cat orchestra, a well-received song by Miss Dorothy Aylmer, and the "Potion Scene" from "Romeo and Juliet," vividly given by Miss Mona Maughan, were other much appreciated items of a long programme.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The Ware Case." By George Pleydell. 350 pages. Price 6s. Published by Methuen and Co., Ltd.

"Songs and Ballads of Greater Britain." Compiled by E. A. Helps. 359 pages. Price 4s. 6d. net. Published by J. M. Dent and Sons, Ltd.

"Peru To-day," January, 1913. Price 5d. Published by the West Coast Publishing Co.

"The Windsor Magazine" for March. Price 6d. Published by Ward, Lock and Co., Ltd.

"Dame Fashion," Paris-London (1786-1912). By Julius M. Price. With 155 coloured plates and copious appendix. Price £3 3s. net. Published by Sampson Low, Marston and Co., Ltd.

"The Three Arts Club Journal" for February. Illustrated. Price 6d. Published monthly at the Three Arts Club.

Mr. Matthew Boulton is appearing at the Pavilion, Weymouth, this week as Count Skaniatine in "A Cigarette-maker's Romance," a part he has played on several occasions, and always with gratifying success. Miss Ruth Dockray is again supporting him as Viera, and winning all hearts with her sympathetic portrayal.

Harold Wagner and Ada Tilley's comedy, "A Trip to Chinatown," has been played this week at the Bootle Metropole. The company included: Messrs. Harry Benet, Edward de Vere, Fred Lytton, Frank Richie, Randolph Churchill, Richard C. Wagner, Fred Young, Bertram Dempster, and Misses Marie Churchill, Elsie Trowell, Lillian Drake, Evelyn Petherick, Sybil Mudie, and Ada Tilley.

BITS ABOUT BOOKS.

A Dancer's Development.*

Miss Loie Fuller in this book makes light of her exploits as an actress; but she had considerable experience on the stage before she invented the pretty and artistic dances that made her so famous. She made her début when a child, at the age of two and a half years; in her earlier years she played a number of engagements with "stock" companies, and toured with "Buffalo Bill," W. J. Florence, &c.; subsequently, for some time, she toured in her own play "Larks"; she appeared at the Bijou Theatre, New York, 1886, as Nettie in "Humbug," and also appeared there as Little Jack Sheppard in the burlesque of that name; she played Rosa Colombier in "The Arabian Nights," all over America; at Niblo's Gardens, November, 1887, she played Ustane in "She"; toured in the West Indies as Juliet and Pauline in "The Lady of Lyons," &c.; made her first appearance on the London stage at the Globe, Oct. 22, 1889, as Mercy Baxter in "Caprice"; she appeared at the Gaiety, Oct. 13, 1890, in "His Last Chance"; at the Avenue, March, 1891, she played Emmy Campbell in "Two or One" and as Zephyrina Winn in "Zephyr"; at Terry's, April, 1891, she played Lizzie in "Charlie," and Florrie in "That Woman in Pink"; and at the Gaiety, June, 1891, she succeeded Letty Lind as Mercedes in "Carmen Up-to-Data." The most curious thing is that with all this dramatic experience in her possession, Miss Fuller should have taken up the profession of dancing as she did. The idea seems to have come to her in the nature of an inspiration; and one of the most interesting portions of the book deals with the invention of the serpentine dance, which is described as follows:—

"In 1890 I was on a tour in London with my mother. A manager engaged me to go to the United States and take the principal part in a new play entitled 'Quack, M.D.' In this piece I was to play with two American actors, Mr. Will Rising and Mr. Louis de Lange, who has since then been mysteriously assassinated.

"I bought what costumes I needed and took them with me. On our arrival in New York the rehearsals began. While we were at work the author got the idea of adding to the play a scene in which Dr. Quack hynotised a young widow. Hypnotism at that moment was very much to the fore in New York. To give the scene its full effect he needed very sweet music and indeterminate illumination. We asked the electrician of the theatre to put green lamps along the footlights and the orchestra leader to play a subdued air. The great question next was to decide what costume I was to wear. I was unable to buy a new one. I had spent all the money advanced me for my costumes and, not knowing what else to do, I undertook to run over my wardrobe in the hope of finding something that would be fit to wear.

"In vain. I could not find a thing.

"All at once, however, I noticed at the bottom of one of my trunks a small casket, a very small casket, which I opened. Out of it I drew a light silk material, comparable to a spider's web. It was a skirt, very full and very broad at the bottom.

"My robe, which was destined to become a triumphal robe, was at least a half a yard too long. Thereupon I raised the girdle and so shaped for myself a sort of empire robe, pinning the skirt to a décolleté bodice. The robe looked thoroughly original, perhaps even a little ridiculous. It was entirely suitable for the hypnotism scene, which we did not take very seriously.

"We 'tried the play on the dog' before offering it to the New York public, and I made my début as a dancer at a theatre in a small city of which the average New Yorker had hardly heard. No one, I suppose, outside its boundaries took the slightest interest in what went on in that city. At the end of the play, on the evening of the first presentation, we gave our hypnotism scene. The stage scenery, representing a garden, was flooded with pale green light. Dr. Quack made a mysterious entrance and then began his work of suggestion. The orchestra played a melancholy air very softly, and I endeavoured to make myself as light as possible, in order to give the impression of a fluttering figure obedient to the doctor's orders.

"He raised his arms. I raised mine. Under the influence of suggestion, tranced—so, at least, it looked—with my gaze held by his, I followed his every motion. My robe was so long that I was continually stepping upon it, and mechanically I held it up with both hands and raised my arms aloft, all the while that I continued to flit around the stage like a winged spirit.

"There was a sudden exclamation from the house:

"'It's a butterfly! A butterfly!'

"I turned on my steps, running from one end of the stage to the other, and a second exclamation followed:

"'It's an orchid!'

"To my great astonishment sustained applause burst forth. The doctor all the time was gliding around the stage, with quickening steps, and I followed him faster and faster. At last, transfixed in a state of ecstasy, I let myself drop at his feet completely enveloped in a cloud of the light material.

"The audience encored the scene, and then encored it again—so loudly and so often that we had to come back twenty times, or more."

The best things in the rest of the book are the pleasant personalities, such as, for instance, the account of Miss Fuller's relations with Madame Sarah Bernhardt, Alexandre Dumas, Rodin, and others. Told in a pleasant vein of chit-chat, they make very agreeable reading. The book is dignified by a polished preface by Anatole France.

*Fifteen Years of a Dancer's Life. 1 vol. Herbert Jenkins.

An Actor-Poet.*

A comprehensive range is taken by Mr. Clifford King, the well-known actor, who has developed into a poet of the highest culture, and has collated his verses into an admirably printed book of 300 pages. The volume includes a Coronation Ode to the King and Queen, another in honour of the Delhi Durbar, and a quantity of verses of all sorts and descriptions. There are no less than eighteen sonnets to as many different maidens, and the author even finds inspiration in the annual dinner of a company of Volunteers. Mr. King writes in learned style, with imagination and power, and his verses, elevated in tone and vivid in expression, have rythmical beauty and finish.

He has three dramatic works in blank verse, the most pretentious being that of "Anselmo," a fanciful story, in three acts, of the triumph of death over life. The principal figure is a recluse named Anselmo, who has acquired magical arts, which render him impervious to death. An all-absorbing love for his mother gives him the desire to yield up his life, but he is powerless to shake off the mortal coil. In his endeavour to attain his end he reaches by supernatural aid the throne of Jupiter, who shows Anselmo the spirit of his mother, and gives to her the power to call him from earth. The lines are written in scholarly style, and make absorbing reading, but there is comparatively little action, and for that reason the possibilities of the play for stage purposes are limited. Of greater use at the footlights would be the dramatic poem, "The Priestess," which deals in quite thrilling fashion with the visit of Pylades and Orestes to Diana's Temple and the rescue of Iphigenia from her position as sacrificial priestess to the goddess. Another dramatic piece is "A Cloistered Heart," which depicts in glowing verse the romance of a nun who finds in the physician of a convent the man to whom she had been espoused, but whom she had thought to be dead, and makes that the occasion to renounce her vows. A large amount of mysticism runs through all Mr. King's verses, but the significance is usually clear, and one reads his book with ever-increasing interest. It should be added that King George and Queen Alexandra have both accepted copies of the book, which, owing to the success of the previous ones, a "New Issue" will be published shortly.

*"Poems by Clifford King." Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner and Co., Limited, Carter-lane, E.C. Price, 5s. net.

"WESTWARD HO!"

Drama, in a Prologue and Three Acts, Founded by Peggy Webling on Charles Kingsley's story of the same name, and Produced at the Palladium on Monday afternoon, Feb. 24.

John Oxenham	Mr. Lewis Gilbert
Oxenham's Daughter	Miss Marjorie Dane
Pedro	Mr. Donald R. Young
Oxenham's Wife	Miss Marion Lind
Salvation Yeo	Mr. Harry Ashford
Amyas Leigh	Mr. Matheson Lang
Dorcas	Miss Marjory Carpenter
Bess	Miss Betty Hutch
Susan	Miss M. L. Emden
Frank Leigh	Mr. Basil L. Sydney
Sir Richard Grenville	Mr. R. Scrope-Quentin
Robin	Miss Nona Wynne
Arthur St. Ledger	Mr. Clarence Blakiston
Will Carey	Mr. Sidney Vautier
Tom Coffin	Mr. Arthur Seaton
Mr. Saltern	Mr. Henry Stanhope
Rose Saltern	Miss Dorothy Ripley
Mistress Leigh	Miss Harriet Trench
Margaret	Miss Ethel Harper
Widow Yeo	Miss Ethel Gray
Jack Brimblecombe	Mr. F. Percival Stephens
Dick Hale	Mr. C. Moyston
Robert Drew	Mr. A. S. Collard
Tom Tegg	Mr. A. Field
Will Parracombe	Mr. Charles Blythe
The Notary	Mr. George Hammond
Fra Jerome	Mr. A. W. Tyrer
Ayacanora	Miss Hutin Britton
Hugh Holdfast	Mr. S. H. Eustace
Vindex Brimblecombe	Mr. James Plinge
Don Guzman de Soto	Mr. Halliwell Hobbes
Fra Gerundio	Mr. Edward O'Neill
First Apprentice	Mr. Vallacott
Second Apprentice	Mr. W. E. Gardiner
The Steward	Mr. A. H. Steerman
Will Fortescue	Mr. Eric Algar

Ringing cheers greeted the return to London after a long absence in the Colonies of Mr. Matheson Lang, who, with his wife, Miss Hutin Britton, replaced the minstrels at the Palladium on Monday afternoon. Mr. Lang brought with him a new play adapted by Miss Peggy Webling from Kingsley's "Westward Ho!" which he produced during his recent sojourn in South Africa, and staged at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Feb. 1. The play seems artificial and lacking in dramatic fibre, and the characters are feebly drawn, but the dialogue has decided literary quality. Fortunately, the play does not reproduce much of that hostility towards the Church of Rome which Kingsley, at no inconsiderable expense to truth, loved to indulge in, and the scene of the Spanish Inquisition never seemed to impress the house with anything like the horror that it was intended to. For the patriotic parts of the play, however, there was much appreciation, and the house thrilled at the allusions to England's heroes, and cheered enthusiastically the hard-won victory in the realistic sea fight which ended in the defeat of the Spanish galleon.

The hero of the hour is, of course, Amyas Leigh, who, in the prologue, dashes in at the death of the hapless John Oxenham, just returned to his home in the East Indies, and promises to safeguard the orphaned Ayacanora. In the first of the three acts we get the return of Amyas with his prisoners, Don Guzman, the Spanish grandee, and Fra Gerundio, the monk, and the maypole celebrations in honour of the home-coming. Don Guzman's infatuation for Rose Saltern, "the Rose of Torridge," and the plot to abduct her are depicted, and in the second act we renew acquaintance with Ayacanora, now grown into womanhood, and witness in a well-written scene the birth of love between the Anglo-Spanish maiden and Amyas. Then comes the Inquisition, where Rose is charged with witchcraft, and an endeavour is made to extort a confession from Frank Leigh by means of the rack, until Amyas, disguised as a monk, obtains an entry into the chamber, and succeeds in rescuing his friends. A series of tableaux show the battle between the English ship and that of the Spaniard, with the repulse of the boarding party, the "Hymn of Thanksgiving" sung by the victors on their knees, and the dawn of the following morning.

The leading part of Amyas Leigh thoroughly suits Mr. Matheson Lang, whose robust physique and virile manner make him a typical sea captain and an ideal son of Devon. He acted with all his customary vigour and energy, and his love scenes with Ayacanora had the proper romantic air. Miss Hutin Britton looked picturesque in the garb of an Indian warrior, and portrayed Ayacanora artistically. The effect of the maiden's passionate outburst was nicely estimated, and Miss Britton's success was well won. Among the most realistic impersonations was that of Don Guzman, played by Mr. Halliwell Hobbes with quiet intensity and skill, and the crafty and cynical monk of Mr. Edward O'Neill was a characteristic effort of that capital actor. Miss Dorothy Ripley's Rose Saltern well justified the description of "The Rose of Torridge," and her gentleness and refinement were agreeable features of the performance. Another creditable impersonation was the Salvation Yeo of Mr. Harry Ashford, who drew a terrible picture of the maltreated sailor and delivered his long speech in low tones, but distinctly enough to be heard all over the house. Miss Marjorie Dane won well-deserved admiration as the child in the prologue. Mr. Lewis Gilbert made the most of his sonorous voice as the ill-fated John Oxenham, and Miss Marion Lind acted with expression as Mrs. Oxenham. Mr. Basil L. Sydney played the devoted lover well, but might infuse added fire into his more dramatic scenes. As Sir Richard Grenville Mr. R. Scrope-Quentin gave a studied performance, and Mr. Henry Stanhope was a spirited Mayor of Bideford. As Tom Coffin Mr. Arthur Seaton revealed the possession of a tuneful baritone in a rousing chorus song; and Miss Nona Wynne made a sprightly page. Mr. George Hammond would be well advised to raise his voice as the Notary in the Inquisition scene. The "comedy relief" of the play is of rather a primitive character, but Mr. F. Percival Stevens managed to extract some fun from the lovelorn Jack Brimblecombe.

Bouquets were presented to Miss Hutin Britton at the end of the play, when there were repeated calls, and the authoress bowed her acknowledgments. Mr. Lang thanked the audience for their generous reception. It was the greatest pleasure in the world to come back after his long absence to play to so large-hearted an audience, among whom he was sure were a great many friends of his and of his wife's. He thanked the Palladium management for enabling him to put on that production in that large house. A deal of preparation was necessary to produce so elaborate a play, but in a house with three performances a day going it was no easy task to secure a perfect performance, and he asked his audience to overlook any delinquencies that might [illegible].

The performance by the [illegible] Club of "Under the [illegible]" on Saturday, April 5, [illegible] day, May 3.

ON THE ROAD, MARCH 3.

Allah's Orchard.—Palace, Gloucester.
Amazons, The.—County T., Bangor.
Arcadians, The.—H.M.T., Aberdeen.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—County T., Reading.
Autumn Manœuvres.—Plymouth.
Bear-Leaders.—T.R., Burton-on-Trent.
Bella Donna (Limpus).—King's Lynn.
Bella Donna.—King's T., Sunderland.
Ben-Hur.—Deptford.
Benson, Mr. F. R.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Benson's, F. R. Co. (including Mr. H. Herbert).—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
Benson's, F. R., Co. (S.).—Monmouth and Stroud.
Blow, Mark.—Grand, Croydon.
Brewster's Millions.—Crystal Palace.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (N.).—T.R., Stockport.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (S.).—Kennington Theatre.
Butterfly on the Wheel.—T.R., Norwich.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—T.R., Glasgow.
Cattle Thief.—Grand, Glasgow.
Charley's Aunt.—T.R., Manchester.
Chocolate Soldier (W.).—Aberaman.
Chocolate Soldier (N.).—Cambridge and Oxford.
Chocolate Soldier (No. 1).—Court T., Wigan.
Chocolate Soldier (E.).—Keighley.
Claudian.—T.R., West Stanley.
Clever Impostor, A.—Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Collier's Lass (N.).—Grand, Nelson.
Collier's Lass, The (S.).—Marina, Lowestoft.
Colombo Girl, The.—T.R., Smethwick.
Count of Luxembourg.—T.R., Barry.
Dairymaids, The.—Hippo., Croydon.
Dancing Mistress, The.—Grand T., Leeds.
D'Oyly Carte Opera.—Prince's Theatre, Manchester.
Draper, Mr. Marcus.—T.R., Merthyr Tydfil.
Easiest Way, The.—Grand T., Pentre.
East Lynne (Pitt-Hardacre).—P.O.W.T., Birmingham.
Face at the Window.—Hippo., Huddersfield.
Fanny's First Play (Rignold and Macdona).—Royalty, Chester.
Fatal Wedding.—New C.T., Motherwell.
Find the Woman.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
From Mill Girl to Millionairess.—Grand, Halifax.
Gambler, The.—Pavilion, Liverpool.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—T.R., Sunderland.
Gay Lord Quex.—P.G.T., Folkestone.
Girl in the Picture.—Peterboro' and Cambridge.
Girl in the Train.—W.G., New Brighton.
Girl of My Heart.—Gaiety, Dundee.
Glad Eye, The (Meyer).—New T., Cardiff.
Glad Eye, The (Meyer).—T.R., Chatham.
Great White Chief, The.—Hippo., Birkenhead.
Hill-Mitchelson, E.—T.R., Sheffield.
Hindle Wakes.—T.R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Hindle Wakes.—King's T., Colne.
Hindle Wakes.—Grand T., Derby.
Hindle Wakes.—O.H., Wakefield.
Hope, The (Dance).—T.R., Oldham.
Indian Scout, The.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Kismet (Dance) (S.).—Preston.
Kismet (Dance) (N.).—Nottingham.
Kit Carson.—G.T., Brighton.
Lifeguardsman, The (S.).—Hippo., Bedford Leigh.
Lomath's, Stuart, Co.—Star T., Swansea.
Man to Man.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Marsh, Alexander, Shakespearean.—O.H., Coventry.
Midnight Wedding.—Hippo., Sheffield.
Milestones (Blue).—New T.R., Portsmouth.
Milestones (Fit-Up).—Bishop's Stortford and Bury St. Edmunds.
Milestones (Red).—T.R., Huddersfield.
Milestones (White).—H.M.T., Carlisle.
Miracle, The.—T.R., Edinburgh.
Moody-Manners Opera Co.—O.H., Southport.
Mormon and His Wives.—Elephant and Castle.
Mother's Love, A.—T.R., Seaham Harbour.
Nick Carter.—Grand, Plymouth.
Nobody's Daughter.—W.P., Brighton.
Old Folks at Home.—Victoria, Kettering.
O'Mara Opera Co.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
Only a Mill Girl.—Empire, Ashton.
Pink Lady, The.—T.R., Bradford.
Prairie Outlaw (N.).—Hippo., Stoke.
Prairie Outlaw (S.).—T.R., Woolwich.
Pride of the Prairie.—Hippo., Salford.
Princess Caprice.—T.R., Newcastle.
Proud Maisie.—H.M.T., Dundee.
Quaker Girl (N.).—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Quaker Girl (E.).—St. Helens.
Quaker Girl (S.).—Grimsby.
Queen for a Wife, A.—Aquarium, Gt. Yarmouth.
Queen Mother, The.—Queen's Park, Manchester.
Queen of the Redskins (S.).—Rilston.
Ready Money (Fenton).—New T., Crewe.
Ready Money.—Grand T., Croydon.
Red Riding Hood (De Lacy and Tymes).—R.T., Millom.
Rollicking Rory.—Alex. T., Widnes.
Round-Up, The.—Hippo., Middlesbrough.
Royal Divorce, A.—P.T., Portsmouth.
Scrape o' the Pen.—O.H., Belfast.
Sheriff of Lonesome Pine.—Grand, Nottingham.
Sign of the Cross.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Silver King.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Slave Girl, The.—T.R., Belfast.
Sledge-Hammer, The.—Hippo., Wednesbury.
Sunshine Girl (Dance).—Stratford.
Sunshine Girl (Edwardes).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Sweet Nell of Old Drury.—King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
Turning Point, The.—Oxford and Leamington.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Grand T., Southampton.
Waltz Dream (N.).—Middlesbrough.
Waltz Dream (S.).—Dewsbury.
Ways and Means.—King's T., Glasgow.
What Happened to Jones.—Hoylake and Worksop.
What Women Will Do For Love.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Whip, The (Dance) (S.).—Cheltenham.
Whip, The (Dance) (N.).—Dublin.
White Girl Slave, The.—T.R., Leicester.
Wife for a Day, A.—T.R., Sunderland.
Witness for the Defence.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Woman Pays, The.—T.R., Bolton.
Young Buffalo.—T.R., Oldham.
10.30 Down Express.—Grand, Mansfield.

SUNDAY'S TRAIN CALLS.

By the courtesy of the various railway companies we are enabled to give the following particulars regarding the movements of theatrical and music hall touring companies travelling by rail to-morrow:

LONDON & NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel by above route to-morrow (Sunday):—O'Mara Opera, St. Helens to Ayr; "Arcadians," Burnley to Aberdeen; Nairn's, Burnley to Dundee; Palladium Minstrels, Liverpool to Glasgow; "Ways and Means," Preston to Glasgow; Mr. James Welch's "Seven Days," Hull to Liverpool; "Kismet," York to Preston; "Arcadians," Keighley to Leigh and Bedford; "Fanny's First Play," Huddersfield to Chester; "Great White Chief," Nelson to Birkenhead; "Pride of Byzantia," Rochdale to Warrington; "Girl in the Train," Leigh and Bedford to Wrexham; "Mormon and Maid," Workington to Great Harwood; "Forty Thieves," Barrow to Manchester and Ashton; "Waltz Dream," Wigan to Dewsbury; "Girl in the Train," Barrow to Liverpool for New Brighton; "Round-Up," Salford to Middlesbrough; "Dancing Mistress," Manchester to Leeds; "The Whip," Manchester to Dublin; F. R. Benson (No. 2), Dublin to Liverpool: "Through Death Valley," Dublin to Moses Gate; Dayton Family, Birkenhead to Earlestown; "The Amazons," Coventry to Bangor; "Silver King," Birmingham to Barrow; "Speckled Band," Smethwick to Rawtenstall; "Her Madcap Majesty," Dudley to Halifax; Morris's, Dudley to Liverpool; "Chocolate Soldier," Wolverhampton to Cambridge; "The Hope," Hanley to Oldham; the J. W. Turner Opera, London to Macclesfield; Imperial Russian Ballet, London to Liverpool; The Grotesques, London to Liverpool; Alex. Marsh's, Blackpool to Coventry; "Jack Horner" pantomime artistes, St. Helens to London; "Silver Creek," Runcorn to London; "Prairie Outlaw," Crewe to Woolwich; "Royal Divorce," Nuneaton to Portsmouth; "Count of Luxembourg," Stockport to Birkenhead; Rayner's Répertoire, Manchester to Dover; "Quaker Girl," Rawtenstall to St. Helens; Hengler's Circus, Glasgow to Manchester; "His Child Wife," Glasgow to Hyde; "Ready Money," Ayr to Crewe; "Fatal Crown," Leigh and Bedford to Rochdale; "Milestones," Oldham to Huddersfield; "Christian," Bangor to Merthyr; "Goody Two Shoes," Birmingham to London; Karno's "Mumming Birds," Portsmouth to Dudley; "Country Girl," London to Watford; "At the Mercy of the Mormons," Rugby to Nuneaton; "The Shopwalker," Manchester to Wolverhampton; "I Defy the World," Earlestown to Yarmouth; "When Other Lips," Stafford to Stourbridge; "Monk and the Woman," Liverpool to Hanley; "The Bondman," Ashton to Wolverhampton; "Prairie Outlaw," Leeds to Stoke; "Cinderella," Cannock to Tipton.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel over the above railway to-morrow (Sunday):—"Princess Caprice," Dundee to Newcastle, Dr. Bodie's Co., Glasgow to Jarrow; Moore and Burgess Co., Paisley to Sunderland; Germania Girls, Glasgow to Newcastle; "Wild Australia," Newcastle to Dunfermline; "Bohemia," Newcastle to Glasgow; "Aladdin," Bishop Auckland to Darlington; "Indian Scout," Jarrow to Bishop Auckland; "Glad Eye," West Hartlepool to Stockton; "Waltz Dream," Sunderland to Middlesbrough; Berzac's Co., Sunderland to Stockton; "Babes in the Wood," Hexham to Alnwick; "Sleeping Beauty," Newcastle to North Shields; "Claudian," Seaham to Shield Row; "Man Tempted Me," West Hartlepool to S. Shields; Ricardos Co., Bishop Auckland to Ushaw Moor; "Ready Money," Newcastle to Croydon; Captain Taylor Co., S. Shields to Wallsend; "Send Him Victorious," Usworth to Doncaster; "The Girl He Loved," Durham to Coalville; "Red Riding Hood," Ashington to Millom; "No Mother to Guide Her," Sunderland to Bury; "The Woman Pays," South Shields to Bolton; The Craggs Co., S. Shields to Liverpool; "Mormon's Wife," Shotton Bridge to Manchester; "Dainty Dots," Wallsend to Devonport; "Kismet," York to Preston; Martin Harvey's Co., Bradford to Hull; "Round Up," Cross Lane to Middlesbrough; "Arms and the Girl," Sheffield to Newcastle; "Death or Glory Boys," Lancaster to Spennymoor; "Girl of the West," Birmingham to Newcastle; "Trip to Chinatown," Liverpool to Shildon; "Queen of the Redskins," Manchester to Castleford; "White as a Lily," Castleford to Birmingham; "Manxman," Scarborough to York; "Chocolate Soldier," Darlington to Wigan; "Peggy," Darlington to Scarborough; "Wearing o' the Green," Middlesbrough to Widnes; Max Erard Co., Middlesbrough to Wakefield; "Child of the Streets," Thornaby to Leeds; "Bella Donna," Middlesbrough to Sunderland; "Seven Days," Hull to Liverpool; "A King's Romance," Hull to Glossop; "Sinbad the Sailor," Beverley to Creswell; "Cowboy's Redemption," Shirebrook to Thornley.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

Theatrical companies en route Sunday, March 2:—Mr. Martin Harvey and Company, Bradford to Hull; Mr. George Edwardes's "Sunshine Girl," Nottingham to Sheffield; Mr. F. R. Benson and Company, London to Edinburgh; Mr. George Edwardes's "Gipsy Love" Co., Glasgow to Birmingham; "The Chocolate Soldier," Carlisle to Keighley; "Bear Leaders," Cheltenham to Burton; "Hindle Wakes," Bedford to Colne; "Hindle Wakes," Northampton to Derby; "White Girl Slave," Burnley to Leicester; "Charley's Aunt," London to Manchester; "Miss Hook of Holland," Belfast to London; "Arcadians," Keighley to Leigh and Bedford; Leonard Mortimer's Company, Liverpool to Rushden; "Improper Peter," Burton to Hastings; "Walls of Jericho," Macclesfield to Luton; "The Christian," Leicester to Birmingham; "A Blind Girl's Love," Wellingborough to Tanshelf; "Wife for a Day," Sutton-in-Ashfield to Sunderland; "Babes in the Wood," Coalville to Ripley; "Red Riding Hood," Ashington to Millom; "Rag-time Revue," Birmingham to Edinburgh; "Texas Tommy," Birmingham to Glasgow; "The Great White Chief," Birmingham to Newcastle; "10.30 a.m. Down Express," Nottingham to Mansfield; Carl Hertz Company, Nottingham to Dover; "Private Potts," Rotherham to Maidstone; "Thief in the Night," Rotherham to Northampton; "A Frontier Queen," Hyde to Apperley; "Barrier," Bolton to Swindon; "Allah's Orchard," Accrington to Gloucester; Chung Ling Soo, Worcester to Euston; "Forty Thieves," Ilkeston to Nuneaton; "Death or Glory Boys," Lancaster to Spennymoor; "The Orange Girl," Manchester to London; "Repentance," Featherstone to Kirkby-in-Ashfield; "Midnight Wedding," Birmingham to Sheffield; "For the Girl he Loved," Durham to Coalville; "Clever Impostor," St. Pancras to Sutton-in-Ashfield; "Pet of the Ranch," Belfast to Bradford; "With Edged Tools," Wednesbury to Boston; "Brothers' Luck" Leeds to London; "Robinson Crusoe," Swindon to Manchester and Bacup.

LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The undermentioned theatrical parties will be travelling over the above company's system to-morrow (Sunday):—Mr. Forbes Robertson's Company will travel from Plymouth to Bournemouth; Mr. Fred Ginnett's "Dick Turpin" Company will leave Waterloo by the 10 a.m. train for Portsmouth. Other arrangements are as follows:—"Everywoman," Wimbledon to Bristol; "The Flag Lieutenant," Boscombe to Waterloo; "Lively Lucerne," Brighton to Southampton; "Little Miss Llewellyn," Bournemouth to Tonypandy; "The Turning Point," Southampton to Oxford; Fred Karno's "Mumming Birds," Portsmouth to Dudley; "Gentleman Ranker," Kingston to Devonport; "Gay Lord Quex," Windsor to Folkestone; "Royal Divorce," Nuneaton to Portsmouth; "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Eastbourne to Southampton; "The Little Stowaway," Southampton to Waterloo; Charles Prelle's Circus, Aldershot to Surbiton; "The Village Sports," Portsmouth to Waterloo; Sinclair Neil's Company, Portsmouth to Bargoed; Cliff Berzac Company, Chatham to Chiswick; Snessell Bros. and Mack, Aldershot to Nuneaton; Mexican Co., Portsmouth to Southampton; "The Vaudevillians," Southampton to Tonypandy; Oswald Williams' Co., Southampton to Bournemouth; Music Hall Artistes, Portsmouth to Newcastle, Bolton, Burnley, Leeds.

LONDON, BRIGHTON, AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.

"Milestones" Co., Chatham to Portsmouth; "Younger Generation" Co., Eastbourne to Brighton; "Life's Revenge" Co., Portsmouth to Ramsgate; Glossop-Harris Co., Worthing to Southend; "His Indian Wife" Co., Brighton to Ipswich; "Bunty Pulls the Strings" Co., Brighton to Victoria; "Brewster's Millions" Co., Portsmouth to Crystal Palace; "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Co., Eastbourne to Southampton; "Lively Lucerne" Co., Brighton to Southampton. "Looking for Trouble" Co., Brighton to Leamington; "Monte Cristo Co., East Croydon to Windsor; Lawrence Grossmith's Co., Victoria to Eastbourne; "Aladdin" Co., Cardiff to Bognor; Lockhart's Elephants, Eastbourne to Victoria; "Prisoner of Zenda" Co., Tonypandy to Eastbourne; "Nobody's Daughter" Co., Victoria to Brighton.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN WEBB.

With great regret we record the passing away, at Napsbury, in Hertfordshire, recently, of Mr. John Webb, a greatly respected member of the profession, who had a long and worthy record of success won by hard and strenuous work. Mr. Webb commenced his dramatic career after a good schooling with a North London Amateur Club by joining Mr. August Creamer's company. Two tours with Jones and Broughton's play, "The Trump Card," followed, and the Christmas vacation found him playing Demon King at the T.R., Edinburgh. We next find the young actor with Miss Florence Wade's company in a dramatised version of Ouida's "Puck," then with May Holt in "Men and Women," and afterwards with Mr. Frederick Wright's company, when Mr. Webb was associated with Haidee, Marie, Fred, and Huntley Wright. A Shakespearean tour with Mrs. Lancaster Wallis as the star was succeeded by a very long engagement with the late Charles Melville, playing the Demon in "The Crimes of Paris." Subsequent

THE LATE MR. JOHN WEBB.

engagements were with Dottridge and Longden's companies, Richard Flanagan's productions at the Queen's, Manchester, "The Pilgrim's Progress," with Miss Grace Hawthorne at the old Olympic, and many others.

Perhaps Mr. John Webb will be best remembered by his long association with the Surrey Theatre stock company, under the banner of the late George Conquest, where he played the leading heavy parts for many years, and made his name a household word among South London playgoers. He died at Napsbury, Feb. 21, aged 49, and was buried in the family grave at Highgate on Thursday.

The deceased actor was a man of handsome appearance and fine physique, and was a favourite with everyone. He leaves a widow to mourn his loss—the popular Miss Nellie V. Warden.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish the following ladies and gentlemen many happy returns of the day:—

Harry Nicholls—Saturday, March 1.
J. Comyns Carr—Saturday, March 1.
John Sargent—Saturday, March 1.
Rachel Lowe—Saturday, March 1.
Alfred Cragg—Saturday, March 1.
Nellie Navette—Sunday, March 2.
Albert Le Fre—Sunday, March 2.
Ada Reeve—Monday, March 3.
Rollo Balmain—Monday, March 3.
Felice Napoli—Monday, March 3.
Olaf Hytten, Monday, March 3.
Mary Campbell—Tuesday March 4.
F. W. Purcell—Wednesday, March 5.
Fewlass Llewellyn—Wednesday, March 5.
Fred Emney—Wednesday, March 5.
Walter Norman—Wednesday, March 5.
Harry Bawn—Wednesday, March 5.
W. C. Burns, Wednesday, March 5.
Arthur Slater—Thursday, March 6.
Leonard Rayne—Thursday, March 6.
Will Bishop—Thursday, March 6.
Charles Cartwright—Friday, March 7.

Among the members of the Sheffield repertory season no one has received more praise for his impersonations than Mr. James Gelderd, who has most worthily followed Mr. Dennis Eadie, Mr. Granville Barker, &c., in parts originally played by them.

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Burton, Mr. Percy
Bute, Mr. L.
Caicedo, Mr. Juan A.
Calcott, Miss Cissie
Calvert, Mr. Louis
Carlyle, Mr. Ivan
Casey, Miss Dorothy
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Clark, Miss Dorothy
Clayton, Mr. William
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Cross, Mr. Albert B.
Cruikshank, Mr.
Cumberland, Mr. E. G.
Cummin and Seaham
Davidson, Mr. John
Dawsone, Mr. Percy
De Ora, Mr.
Dennis, Mr. Will
Denville, Miss Lillie
Derson, Miss Winnie
Devi, Mr. Geo.
Dooley, Mr. H.
Doris and Francis
Drew, Mr. John E.
Drury, Miss Lily
Duse, Mme. Eleonora
Edams, Mr. G.
Elliott, Mrs. H.
Everard, Mr. Walter
Fannan, Mr. P.
Fawn, Miss Harriet
Field, Miss Daisy
Fields, Mr. W. C.
Fishburn, Capt.
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Glynn, Miss
Godfrey, Mr. Arthur
Godwin, Miss Olive
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Granville, Miss H.
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Hall, Mr. J. W.
Hare, Miss Winifred
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Holden, Mr. Thomas
Holding, Mr. Thos.
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Hornsey, Mr. Leonard
Hull, Mr. Jas. Bradley
Humber, Miss Fanny
Hunt, Mr. R. A.
Hyatt, Mr. Percival
Imeson, Mr. Ernest
Inglis, Mr. J. W. T.
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Johns, Miss Jennie
Kellermann, Miss A.
Kendal, Miss Marie
Kendal, Mr. and Mrs.
King, Miss
Knights, Mme. L.
La Martine, Mr. Herbert
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Latchford, Miss Gertie
Laurens, Senorita M.
Lauri, Mr.
Laurie, Miss Carrie
Lawrence, Mr. Clem
Lawrence, Mr. P.
Lea, Miss Lillian
Leete, Mr. F. D.
Leif, Miss Tiny
Leigh, Mr. Andrew G.
Leigh, Mr. Arthur
Leonard, Mr. Frank
Levaine, Mr. Harry
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Mannix, Mr. J. J.
Mansfield, Miss Genevieve
Mareo, Mr. Eric
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Peterman, Mr. Joe
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Sullivan, Mr. Gerald
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Thorne, Miss Marguerite
Tonia, Miss Josie
Toy, Mr. Henry S.
Turner, Mr. Alun
Tyrrell, Miss Florence
Valli Valli, Miss
Van Earle, Mme.
Wallis, Mr. Tom
Walsh, Mr. James
Walter, Mr. Eugene
Ward, Miss Fanny
Ward, Mr. Albert (American juggler.)
Watson, Miss Mabel
Wentworth, Miss Fanny
Wentworth, Mr. Reg.
Whistling Coon
Williams, Miss Gwen
Wilton, Mr. E.
Wingfield, Mr. Ernest
Wise, Mr. Jack
Worrall, Mr. L.
Woulfe, Mr. F. B.
Wynne, Miss Wish
Yates, Miss Katie
Zuma

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A meeting of the committee of the Managers' Club was held on the 21st ult. Present:—Mr. A. Bertram (in the chair), Mr. Wentworth Croke, Mr. F. Weathersby, Mr. Herbert Ralland, Mr. William Giffard, Mr. E. Taylor Platt, Mr. Sam Livesey, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, Mr. Graham Falcon, Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson (hon. solicitor), and Mr. Montgomery Martin (secretary), Mr. Frank Gilbert, Mr. Alan Borthwick, Mr. Alfred W. Newton, and Mr. Fred A. Ellis were duly elected members of the club. March 28 will be the latest date at which candidates can be elected without entrance fee.

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FLORENCE SMITHSON AND THE KIDDIES.

There were sounds of revelry last Sunday afternoon and evening at the Imperial Café, when Miss Florence Smithson entertained large parties of her friends, young and old, from Drury Lane pantomime. In the afternoon some 150 children of the pantomime were given a royal time After a hearty repast, such games as musical chairs, for substantial prizes offered by Mis Smithson, were indulged in. In entertaining her young guests, the charming heroine of the pantomime had the invaluable assistance of Mr. Arthur Conquest, the famous Drury Lane dog, and her dainty little daughter, Joy. Joy may be said to have reigned supreme in every sense of the word. Some hours later Miss Smithson presided at a convivial dinner party, which included most of the grown-up principals of the pantomime. On this occasion also, she proved herself an admirable hostess. After dinner dancing was indulged in, and the Sleeping Beauty and her court were wide awake at an early hour on Monday morning footing it lightly in the Bunny Hug and Turkey Trot.

THEATRICAL HOCKEY.

Manchester University were only moderately represented in the mixed hockey match with the "Dancing Mistress" company at Fallowfield on Tuesday. Miss Dora Fraser, of the company, played full back for the University, and performed fairly well. The Theatricals gave a surprisingly clever display, and won by three goals to two. Miss Leslie, on their left wing, was really brilliant, and showed good speed and stamina. Hodgson, Dewey, and Vane were also clever forwards, and Hulme and Eastman useful half-backs, while Winton was a great defender at back. Hutchinson soon put the University ahead, but the Theatricals played up well, and gained the upper hand. Hodgson equalised, and then got the lead, which the Theatricals held at the interval. In the second half Davey put the Theatricals further ahead. The University pressed, and Hutchinson scored again for the 'Varsity. Result: the "Dancing Mistress" won by 3 goals to 2.

The cast of the dramatic reading of "All's Well that Ends Well," which will be given by the British Empire Shakespeare Society on Monday afternoon at the University College, is as follows:—Mr. H. A. Saintsbury (Parolles), Mr. Fred Grove (Clown), Mr. Michael Sherbrooke (Lafeu), Mr. Frederic Sargent (Bertram), Mr. J. Henry Twyford (First Lord), Mr. Eric Snowdon Second Lord), Mr. Montagu Love (First Soldier), Mr. Arthur Linay (Steward), Mr. J. Fisher White (King of France), Mr. [illegible] (Countess of Rousillon), Miss Rose Dupree (Helena), Miss Eve Tame (Diana), Miss Alma [illegible], and Miss Ida Molesworth (C[illegible]).

A RECENT COMMENT ON OUR WORK—

To the Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co. Savoy Theatre, Strand, W.C.
Dear Sirs,— Feb. 18, 1913.
I am glad to say we are very pleased with the Cleaning of "The Winter's Tale" Wardrobe. It has been done in a most satisfactory manner.
(Signed) OSWALD MARSHALL
(Stage Manager).

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A. W. FISHER (General Manager).

P. Michael Faraday's production, "The [illegible]e Taxi," reached its 200th performance [illegible]ay night (Feb. 27). All the original [illegible]n in the cast, and, although it is [illegible]g musical play continues to pack [illegible].

[illegible]ill be forwarded to any [illegible]n for six stamps.

The little French Theatre's first performance will take place on March 16, at a theatre in the West End. The piece chosen is an adaptation of the Brothers de Goncourt's "Fille Eliza," the cast including Mlle. Marie de Nys, who played the name-part in Paris. If the new association gives us a chance of seeing some French classics and masterpieces properly performed, it will perform a valuable and agreeable function.

OUR AMATEURS.

Mr. James Albery's "Two Roses," chosen by the Robins D.S. for the second performance of its twenty-fourth season at the Cripplegate Theatre on Feb. 24, has a simple and direct Victorian flavour, provocative of reminiscence, and a refreshing change from some present-day analytical dramas. The piece received a more than adequate rendering at the hands of the members of the society. Mr. Godfrey Drayton gave full weight to the succinct and epigrammatic phrases of Digby Grant, Esq., who so grandiloquently discharged all obligations by distributing "little cheques" on his sudden fancied accession to wealth. Mr. Jack Puttock had a difficult part to play in that of the blind Caleb Deecie, the result being a sound if rather monotonous reading. We have seen Mr. Puttock in parts that suited him much better. Miss H. Grace Robinson as the landlady, Mrs. Cups, also seemed to miss some opportunities, and erred on the side of under-acting. Mr. H. George Gafford, who, we are sure, would never be happy as the "villain" of a piece, was frank, breezy and earnest as the rightful heir, Jack Wyatt; and Mr. Sydney W. Fletcher in Our Mr. Jenkins hit off excellently the amiable and generous foibles of that lovable person. Mr. Herbert E. Ford was well made up as the lawyer. Mr. Furnival, with an effective "Dear me!" Miss Kathleen Howat and Miss Maude E. Nevett played freshly, delightfully, and unanimously as the white and red roses, Lotty and Ida; and Miss A. M. Baddeley was a welcome addition to the cast as Our Mrs. Jenkins.

The Comedy Club, true to its motto of "joyfulness," had a merry evening at the Streatham Town Hall on Feb. 25, when it presented, in addition to the mirth-provoking evergreen "The Private Secretary," that clever trifle, "Between the Soup and the Savoury," by Gertrude Jennings. Treated from a farcical rather than a pathetic point of view, the aspirations of the love-sick little kitchen-maid, the comments of the sympathetic cook and the side-lights on the situation "above stairs" furnished by the observant parlourmaid, lost none of their point thereby. The little *hors d'œuvre* was smartly served up by Miss Clara Sutton, Miss Dora Tull, and Miss Phyllis Bateman as Maria, Ada and Emily respectively. Mr. A. E. Wass's Private Secretary was amusing, though we missed some of the mild unction usually associated with the Rev. Robert Spalding's "M'yes" and "D'you know." Mr. George Leonard was always consistent as the bluff and explosive Mr. Cattermole, sen., with a rather bucolic accent; and Mr. E. W. Peall was excellent as the Bond-street tailor, Gibson. Miss Kate Twiddy, principally by her voice, gave an impression of youth to her rendering of the part of Mrs. Stead, not quite consistent with her make-up. Miss Phyllis Bateman entered fully into the spirit of Miss Ashford, and, with Miss Adèle Muller and Miss Kate Masters, as dainty Edith and skittish Eva, acted briskly and always to the point. Their scene with Mr. J. Kingsley Jones, as a manly Douglas Cattermole, was admirably carried through. Mr. D. P. Macdonald and Mr. E. T. Bond's Marsland, junior and senior, were good impersonations, though Mr. Macdonald's voice did not always carry to the end of the hall. Messrs. G. Leonard and E. W. Peall were responsible for the production.

The Reyvelcar A.D.C., having come through what was practically a first performance at the Cripplegate Theatre on Feb. 26, and being inferentially an intelligent body, has no doubt by this time fully realised all that can be said to it as to the fundamental essentials of a good production. The choice of Mr. Alfred Sutro's play, "The Walls of Jericho," though an ambitious one, was perhaps justified by the earnestness with which it was attempted, an earnestness which did not in all cases include a knowledge of the words. But the prompter, by the fourth act having settled into his stride, "fed" the dialogue to the actors, whether they wanted it or not, much in the same way that the officiating clergyman dictates portions of the marriage service to the contracting parties! There was, nevertheless, commendable acting by some of the members of a long cast, notably that of Mr. Paul D. Roper, who was capital as the vigorous "sponging" Marquis of Steventon; of Mr. A. G. Norman Waite, who played the part of Harry Dallas with no uncertain touch; of Mr. M. Gardiner Morris, fresh and ingenuous as the Colonial, Hankey Bannister, who fell a ready victim to the wiles of the ingenuous *ingénue*, Lady Lucy Derenham, played with quite adorable charm and easy grace by Miss Nora Nuttall. Mr. W. Henley-Hamlyn as Jack Frobisher was one of the worst offenders in the matter of "lines," and though his appearance belied his pseudonym of "Fighting Jack," he succeeded in persuading us of his suitability for the part by the way he took advantage of his opportunities in the third act. Miss Kitty Flower gave easy point to all her smart speeches as the "up-to-date" Tiny Mornington; and Miss Violet A. Codner was more successful in her earlier and lighter moods, notably in the second act, than in her rather melodramatic utterances in the closing scenes. Mr. H. Calvert Appleby, who stage managed, took the part of the epigrammatic bore, Bertram Hannaford; and fashionable—and other—people who came and went without leaving any very distinct impression on the mind were capably impersonated by Messrs. R. A. Ogg, R. G. Sharpe, T. Hughes, and A. Barclay-Forbes, Messrs. R. Machin and K. Onslow representing two imperturbable and irreproachable serving-men; and Misses S. Adams, M. Coombe, and L. V. Fulker three Bridge-playing members of the Smart Set. We look forward to seeing some good work from this club, whose first performance was in aid of the "Referee" Children's Fund.

A fairy play, entitled "Candlemas Eve," by Miss D. Bower, was produced at the Guildhall School of Music Theatre on Tuesday, Feb. 25, in aid of the funds of St. George's Hospital. There is some promise for this, being built upon quite an original theme, and in parts there is some clever dialogue, but the construction is somewhat weak. The story hinges upon the old tradition that if the holly and evergreen erected for the festive season are not removed before the stroke of midnight on Candlemas Eve the King of the Goblins appears, and ill-luck pursues the unhappy household for the rest of the year. This happens to the household of King Val, the king of the goblins being a certain Prince Emerald, who, in search of the magic nectar distilled from poppies, which Flora, the Queen of Flowers, refuses to give to him, returns to earth and casts a spell on the king, who imagines that his daughter is the spectre of death and banishes her from the court. This daughter, Princess Hope, and Prince Emerald fall in love (as they have a habit of doing in the delightful realms of fairyland), and together they search for the magic nectar, assisted by Nature. The rest of the play deals with the search, during which we are carried to Flowerland and Fairyland, where the magic nectar is found by the princess, and, after numerous adventures in such delightful places as the Dell of Delight and Snowland, the prince ultimately drinks the draught, the spell of the king is broken, and, of course, "everybody lives happily ever after."

The authoress, Miss D. Bower, played the part of Prince Emerald quite well, and Miss L. Jarvis as King Val displayed good powers of elocution. Prince Tanzelo, played by Miss N. Palmer, showed some promise, this lady possessing a good voice. In the dual parts of Flora, Queen of Flowers, and Boreas, leader of the Wind Spirits, Miss Elsie Mizen looked very pretty, and sang and danced delightfully. No less successful was Miss J. Toler as Nature. Possessed of a sweet voice and charming presence, she played in captivating style. Miss Hickman as Spirit of Knight sang very sweetly, too. Mr. G. Williams did what he could with the part of the Jester, but he had very little scope. Miss Doris Mizen as Princess Hope looked very lovely, and in singing, dancing and acting played with much charm. Master F. Bower (a child of 2½ years) was quite a sweet little Cupid. The play was well received, and Miss Bower had to make a speech at the close. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. R. Turner, was quite a success.

The Clapham and Balham Operatic Society are having a bumper week with their spirited production of "Tom Jones" for six nights and a matinée at the Brixton Theatre. Crowded and enthusiastic audiences have been the rule, and the frequent applause which greeted the tuneful music, dainty dancing, and humorous "book" of this pretty opera was well earned by principals, chorus, and orchestra alike, under the direction of the society's hard-working conductor, Mr. Frank Mummery. Chief praise must be given to Mr. Charles James as the dashing, debonair highwayman, Tom Jones; to Miss Beatrice Hampton as the "fetching" waiting-maid, Honour; and to Mr. Sam Boots as the loquacious and energetic "chirurgeon," Partridge, the singing, dancing, and acting of each of these clever players leaving little to be desired. Miss Hampton's songs, "The way he looked" and "All for a ribbon to tie her hair," were amongst the successes of the production, and her dainty dance in the Ranelagh scene "brought down the house." Miss Alma Lewis's good voice did full justice to the "Derry down," "Petticoat," and other songs allotted to Sophia, though her acting in the part was inclined to be a little monotonous. Mr. Lawrence Bertram's lugubrious Blifil was thrown into relief by the general snap and sparkle of the performance, and Mr. Percy Friend got a good deal of humour from the part of the choleric "fine old English gentleman," Squire Western. Mr. J. S. Quigley's stolid Gregory was another good bit of characterisation, whilst Mr. Allworthy was adequately acted by Mr. J. S. Macbeth, and Miss Western and Lady Bellaston found discriminating representatives in Miss Ruth Alcott and Miss Ethel Earwaker. Though it is not possible to particularise further in a long cast, all worked well to obtain the general good result. Mr. Frederick C. Lloyd was the stage-manager and producer.

The Loughborough Amateur Operatic Society last week gave five very creditable performances of "The Yeomen of the Guard," although it cannot be said that such a high standard of general excellence was reached as was attained in their rendition of "The Gondoliers" last year. However, Mr. T. Marshall Green, who since the establishment of the society in 1896 has officiated as honorary producer and conductor, and again acted in that capacity, must be heartily congratulated on the outcome of his efforts. The society includes several highly talented amateurs, the work of the chorus being again very excellent, and the *mise-en-scène* most effective.

Of the principals, the chief honours rest with the ladies, Mrs. J. T. Bolesworth and Miss Maude Keightley as Elsie Maynard and Phœbe Meryll respectively, each scoring heavily. Mrs. Bolesworth's acting was dainty and well finished, and, possessed of an excellent voice, she was heard to advantage in the numbers allotted to her. Miss Maude Keightley was vivacious as Phœbe, her teasing of the jailor being cleverly performed. She was, perhaps, best in the second act in the scene with Wilfred, when she indulged in the outburst of pettishness, this being a well-studied and most natural bit of play. Mrs. Edna Moss portrayed Dame Carruthers, and made the most possible of the character. Mr. Maurice Woolley's interpretation of Jack Point was well studied, and he came out strongest in the final and tragic scene. He received encores for the concerted numbers with Elsie and Shadbolt. As the latter, Mr. Arthur Green must be highly commended, and in all the characters he has previously sustained he has never been more successful or his native dry humour more highly appreciated. Mr. Horace Lowe as Colonel Fairfax played his part well, and received frequent encores for his singing. Mr. George Lowe as the Lieutenant of the Tower acted with becoming dignity, and Mr. Edgar Moss did well as Sergeant Meryll. The other principal parts were well filled. Credit must be given to Mr. Jim Bolesworth for his work as stage-manager and to Mr. Walter Mounteney for his duties as secretary. The generous patronage and the crowded houses obtained will enable the society to still further augment their splendid contributions to local charities. The performances were given at the Hippodrome (by arrangement with Mr. Leon Vint), and a professional orchestra was engaged.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

CHARLES WM. RAY.—*Lulu was not a lady, though dressed as one on the stage, and was never fired out of a cannon at the Westminster Aquarium.*

J. JOHNSON.—*Write to the firms you mention, and inquire. You will find the address of the firms you mention in "The Bioscope," a cinema journal.*

HOPWOOD. — *Possibly he may have appeared there, but we only remember his appearance at the Empress, Brixton, and the Palladium. Why not address your inquiries to "The Sporting Life"?*

GEORGE E. RODGERS.—*We have been to considerable trouble over your question. Dan Leno made his first appearance at Drury Lane Theatre under the Augustus Harris régime as the Baroness in "Babes in the Wood" on Dec. 26, 1888. His other pantomime characters at the same house were:—* 1889—*"Jack and the Beanstalk," Mrs. Simpson;* 1890—*"Beauty and the Beast," Mr. Lombarde Streete;* 1891—*"Queen of Hearts," Humpty Dumpty;* 1892—*"Little Bo-Peep," Daddy Thumb;* 1893—*"Robinson Crusoe," Mrs. Crusoe;* 1894—*"Dick Whittington," Idle Jack;* 1895—*"Cinderella," the Baroness;* 1896—*"Aladdin," Mrs. Twankay;* 1897—*"Babes in the Wood," Reggie, one of the Babes, Mr. Herbert Campbell being the other, Chrissie;* 1898—*"The Forty Thieves," Abdallah;* 1899—*"Jack and the Beanstalk," Dame Trot;* 1900—*"The Sleeping Beauty and the Beast," Queen Ravia;* 1901—*"Blue Beard," Anne;* 1902—*"Mother Goose," Mother Goose;* 1903—*"Humpty Dumpty," Queen Spritely. Dan Leno died on Oct.* 31, 1904. *Herbert Campbell predeceased him, dying July* 19 *in the same year. We do not answer correspondents by post.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

DEATHS.

BOYDE.—Feb. 16, at Lambeth Infirmary, of consumption, Mrs. Edwin Boyde (professionally known as Miss Alice Cooke).

BOYNE.—On Jan. 27, at Rangoon, Burmah, after an operation, Mrs. G. C. Boyne (Miss Marjorie Davenport), aged 30.

CALVERT.—Feb. 18, at Bombay, Frank Calvert (of Roze and Calvert), son of Frank Travis.

LEARMOUTH.—On the 18th ult., at her residence, 1, Tollock-street, Gateshead-on-Tyne, Mary, aged 46 years, wife of Andrew Learmouth and dearly beloved mother of Jimmy Learmouth. Deeply mourned by her three loving children. R.I.P.

LIVESEY.—At Barry, Feb. 24, 1913, Maggie, wife of Sam Livesey. Her end was peace. Deeply mourned by all who knew her.

STEINMETZ. — On Feb. 23, Joseph S. Steinmetz (Joseph S. Bentley, of Terry and Bentley), after a very painful illness.

WEBB.—On Friday, Feb. 21, at Middlesex County Asylum, Napsbury, John Webb, for many years leading heavy man, the late Mr. Geo. Conquest's stock co., Surrey Theatre, S.E., husband of Miss Nellie V. Warden.

After life's fitful fever he sleeps well.

IN MEMORIAM.

LAUREL.—In ever loving memory of my darling Sadie (Mrs. Sid. Laurel), née Warner, who passed away Feb. 29, 1912. Never to be forgotten by her heartbroken mother.

LAUREL.—In ever loving memory of my darling wife, Sadie, who passed away Feb. 29, 1912.

The time was short, the blow severe,
To part with one I loved so dear.
Roses may wither, fade, and die,
Some may forget you, but never shall I.

Syd Laurel.

LAUREL.—In loving memory of dear Sadie (Mrs. Syd Laurel), who passed away Feb. 29, 1912. Gone, but never forgotten by Florrie and Fred Laurel.

STOCKTON.—In loving remembrance of Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Stockton (Ella Stirling), who both died Feb. 27, 1898. Never forgotten.

VOKES.—Robert (Bob) Vokes, who died March 2, 1912, who is always in the fond remembrance of his daughter, Amelia Dalton.

WIDDICOMBE.—In ever loving memory of my darling husband, Victor Widdicombe, who died of typhoid fever at Dewsbury, Feb. 27, 1912. Never forgotten by his wife, Clara, and son, Harold.

Edinburgh has always had a great and well-deserved reputation for its Amateur Dramatic Societies and Opera companies—even Grand Opera societies. At the Theatre Royal this week perhaps the youngest of the opera companies, the Bohemians, are giving performances of Planquette's work, "Nell Gwynne." It seems that it is twenty-five years since the opera was produced on the local stage, so that it is practically new to the majority of those before whom it is being presented. Mr. Michael Dwyer, who was the Buckingham of the original production in London, is responsible for the training of the Bohemians, hence perhaps the perfection of detail. Nell is played by Miss Netta Kirkness, and her experience is shown in the happy rendering she gives the part. Other ladies who are notable are Misses Ayton, Ross, and Majilton, the last-named giving a fine exhibition of dancing. Mr. Fraster as King Charles, Mr. Duns as Buckingham, and Mr. Lee as Rochester are ideally suited. Weasel gives Mr. Gibson a splendid opportunity for displaying a fine comedy vein; and the Beadle of Mr. Brierley is also excellent. Edinburgh is about to have a Zoological Garden, and part of the proceeds of the performances will be given to it. The Edinburgh and Leith Tramways Employees' Benevolent Funds will also participate. The usual large and fashionable audiences are nightly in evidence. It might be mentioned that the Royal is a favourite house with the amateurs, possibly due in great measure to the urbanity and knowledge of the manager, Mr. Whitehead.

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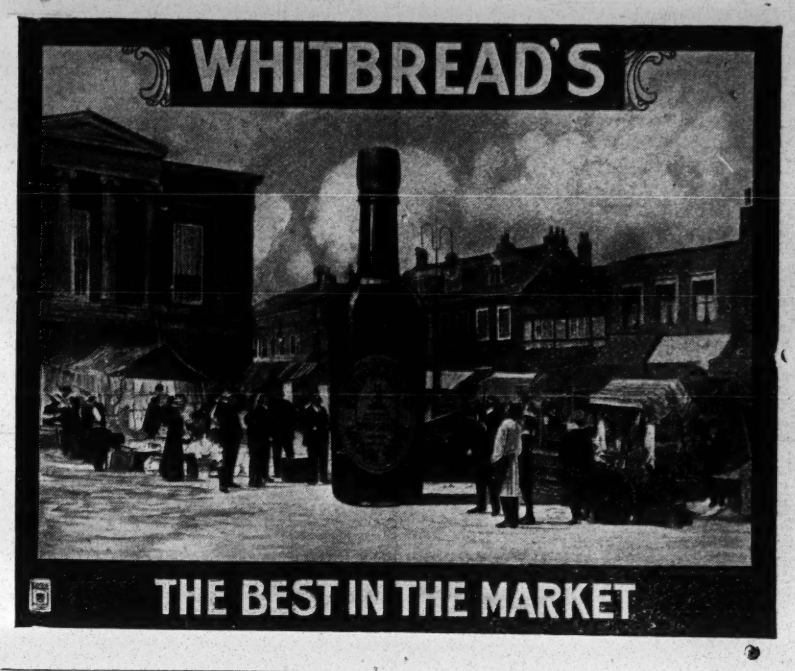
—*Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.*



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—*Henry VI., Act ii., Scene iii.*

THE NEW MIDDLESEX THEATRE.

On Monday was Produced here Arthur Shirley's great Drama, in Eight Scenes, entitled "THE GRIP OF IRON."

It is about a quarter of a century since this play was produced at the Surrey, and its attractiveness with the masses has never been in doubt. It is meeting with enthusiastic receptions on its revival here, the company engaged including several favourite artistes who have appeared at this theatre on recent occasions. Mr. Philip Darien, in the dual rôles of Jagon (a copying clerk) and Summonet (chief of the Stranglers of Paris), proved himself an actor of resource, and made a complete success by his clever interpretation of both characters. Paul Blanchard was well acted by Mr. Edwin Bennett, who played in a subdued but perfectly natural manner. To Mr. Bert C. Wynn was entrusted the part of Robert de Belfort, and Mr. Brian Daly was cast for the Prison Governor—both gentlemen being satisfactory. As Lorenz de Ribas Mr. Ernest R. Holloway deserves high commendation. Mr. Henri Dore displayed ability as Alphonse de Coucou, as did Mr. Arthur Byron in his representation of Dodot. The convict Loustalot, alias the Smiler, was capitally impersonated by Mr. Will Smith, a character actor who never fails to score. Mr. J. Williamson did well as Captain Guerin (a retired officer). Miss Agnes Paulton acted and looked well as Marie Guerin. Miss Gertrude F. Godart in her portrayal of Sophia Blanchard impressed the audience greatly by her sincerity, and Cora Simmonet was quite safe in the experienced hands of Miss Sybil Etherington. Liberal applause rewarded the efforts of the company engaged. The dresses and wigs (by John Hyman) added much to the interest of the play, and the stage-management of Mr. Charles A. East was again noticeable. The first part of the programme proved of more than usual interest. Those talented comedy tumbling acrobats, Briff, Braff, and Broff, worked very hard and well earned the frequent plaudits which punctuated their performance. Miss Vera Wootton, rightly described on the programme as "The Irresistible Comedienne," merits much praise. The audience greatly appreciated her easy style and clear articulation, which, in conjunction with her fine well-trained voice and appropriate costumes, enabled her to win golden opinions. Her songs, "When mother was twenty-one" and "Mary told the story to the soldier," suited her down to the ground. Another act deservedly applauded was that of Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson.

Very enthusiastic and encouraging was the large audience who assembled at the Brixton Theatre on Monday to witness the famous comic opera, "Tom Jones," presented by the Clapham and Balham Operatic Society, and finely produced by Mr. Frederick G. Lloyd. In the title-rôle Mr. Charles James displayed the possession of a fine voice, which he used with effect. Miss Alma Lewis played with irresistible charm and sang with sweetness of tone her various songs in the character of Sophia. Mr. Sam Boots' Benjamin Partridge was very popular, the clever comedian carrying the comedy of the play—no light work—on his shoulders. Mr. Boots was ably assisted by Mr. J. S. Quigley Gregory, Mr. F. Lippold (Dobbin), and Mr. A. Marmion (Grizzle). Mr. Percy Friend made a fine old English gentleman of the Squire; Mr. Laurence Bertram did well as Blifil; as Mr. Allworthy, Mr. J. E. MacBeth gives an effective study; Miss Beatrice Hampton as Honour sang and danced beautifully, and won repeated encores. Miss Ethel Earwaker was a delightful Lady Bellaston; the Misses Ruth Alcott (Miss Western) and Ethel Barnes (Susan) also assisted greatly in the production. Mr. Frank Mummery ably conducted the orchestra.

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By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

THE ENCORE. May 26, 1910.

We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Since the second edition of his work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artistes, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phrassology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To every one connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artistes, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.

Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artistes, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.
The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features, is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

STAR.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artiste must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.

REFEREE, May 15, 1910.

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work, "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1913.

TWO EMINENT ARTISTES.

There is no art whose professors win so much affection as that of the stage. The actor and actress, in the imagination of their admirers, never grow old. We are reminded of these facts by two others: that Miss ELLEN TERRY was sixty-five on Thursday, and that Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON will take farewell of the metropolis and the stage at Drury Lane Theatre on the 22nd of this month.

Miss TERRY, apart from her professional juvenility, is eternally youthful by reason of her temperament. She is the sublimated type of the actress of the last generation. The actress in 1848 was usually born of a family of actors. She went on the stage at an early age, and generally served an apprenticeship in the provinces. So it was with the beloved and admired lady whose sixty-fifth birthday came round this week. As one looks back at her career, one is lost in admiration of the vast amount of work done by her in her long and happy stage-life. First we have the youthful actress playing such parts as Mamillius in "The Winter's Tale," Puck, William Waddilove in the farce "To Parents and Guardians," and Jacob Earwig in "Boots at the Swan." Then we have her appearing in pantomimes as a fairy and as Prince Arthur in "King John," as Fleance in Macbeth, and as Tiger-Tom in "If the Cap Fits"; and actually playing five parts in a quick-change sketch entitled "Distant Relations," or "going through the mill" in burlesque, farce, and melodrama at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, under the management of the famous J. H. CHUTE, whose brother's death at the age of ninety-four we recorded last week.

In many ways the old-time actress had the advantage. Her experience was trying, but thorough. It tested the temper, and it was a capital cure for the disease of conceit to which the young are, to use the phrase of Falstaff, very "subject." Nowadays, the young actress who comes of theatrical parents finds the way to fame made only too smooth for her. She leaps, like Minerva from the brain of Jove, straight from the boarding school to the boards. Paragraphists praise her in advance; interviewers hang on her words, and her crude opinions are set down as if they were the ripe results of the sagest experience. The result is that she never has a fair chance of cultivating either her art or her character. The long runs of the few pieces in which she appears prevent her from gaining the varied experience which the old-time actress had; and being spared the wholesome criticism of her betters, she acquires an exaggerated idea of her merits. From the time when Miss TERRY went on the stage in 1856 to the time when she joined the late Sir HENRY IRVING at the Lyceum in 1878, she had played, perhaps, hundreds of parts; and these not all of one kind. The old-time actress had to use her wits constantly and spiritedly. There was no picking and choosing a few parts which were suited to her; she had to suit herself to the parts for which she was cast; and the result of all this exercise was to make her supple, resourceful, and quick-witted, and to "knock the nonsense out of her" to a very beneficial extent.

Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON is another example of the value of hard work, just as he is a favourable specimen of the class of man who has lately taken to the stage in considerable numbers—the cultivated, artistic aspirant, not born in the motley, but drawn to the theatre by an instinctive impulse. The son of an art-critic and the husband of a dramatic critic's daughter, an engineer by profession and a painter by gift and instinct, Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON has nevertheless done his share of the so-called drudgery which is indispensable to the artist who would be master of his art. When we are witnessing music, under Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON'S elevating influence, we find ourselves in the higher grades of acting we find it difficult to realise that he made his first appearance at the Gaiety in a minor part in "Henry VIII.," that he played at the Opera Comique with CHARLES MATHEWS, and appeared as Moses in "Olivia" at the Court; and one can hardly imagine the stately and refined representative of Hamlet enacting Pitou, the comic prompter in "Frou-Frou," or even Sir Andrew Aguecheek in "Twelfth Night"; to say nothing of playing Mr. Winkle in "Jingle." For Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON'S personality is so picturesque, his profile —as cleanly-cut as a cameo—is so commanding that it seems at first sight that such characters are beneath him. But this was the idea in the old times: that the actor in his apprenticeship should suit himself to his part, not select it to suit him. And, curiously enough, the most refined, the most poetical, and the most romantic actors and actresses were produced by this system. When they came into their kingdoms and were able to pick and choose their parts they found that their rough-and-ready experience, without vulgarising them, had given them an easy activity and a readiness that were most valuable. Mr. PERCY BURTON in one of his interesting articles on FORBES-ROBERTSON tells an anecdote of the actor when he was playing Romeo to the Juliet of Mme. Modjeska. As he was about to make his exit from her room he was staggered to find that the ladder had been taken away, and pointed the fact out to her in a stage whisper. "You must jump," she said, with scarcely disguised glee; and, indeed, there was no other way to negotiate the ten or twelve feet between Juliet's bedroom and terra firma. So he had to. Such were the experiences of the old-time aspirants. FORBES-ROBERTSON is an actor-artist of the first rank. He has been too much away from England to satisfy his English admirers; but his triumphal reception at Drury Lane on the 22nd will make amends for his absences.

THE INSURANCE ACT AND THE PROFESSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—On the 26th ult. I wrote to the Commissioners for Scotland bringing to their notice an instance of the unfair working of the Act as it applies to the profession. The facts are as follows:— A young lady in the chorus of a twice-nightly pantomime playing here was taken ill during the performance. Several doctors were requested by 'phone to come to the theatre and attend her, but they all declined, saying that she should call in the doctor who had signed her card.

As this was obviously impossible (the girl being domiciled in Yorkshire) I induced my own doctor to come. He charged her, it is true, but a nominal fee for his services. Nevertheless, the young lady was justifiably indignant at not receiving free medical benefits, which she had every right to expect.

In the interests of all concerned I took up the matter as stated, and I enclose copy of the correspondence, which I would ask you to be good enough to publish, as the matter is of vital importance to the poorer members of the profession.

It would appear from enclosure No. 3 that these unfortunate people will have to cool their heels until the Insurance Commissioners have obtained that advice which in my opinion they should not have had occasion to seek.—Yours faithfully,

EDWARD FOSTER,
Manager.

Alhambra Theatre, Glasgow.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.
Copy of letter from Insurance Commissioners to Edward Foster.

"Jan. 29, 1913.

"SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 26th inst., I have to inform you that insured persons changing their place of residence from the area of one committee to that of another are required on arriving in the new area to give notice to the local Insurance Committee, who will then make arrangements for the medical benefit in that area.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"(Signed) JOHN JEFFREY,
"Secretary."

ENCLOSURE No. 2.
Copy of letter from E. Foster to the N.I.C. in reply to Enclosure No. 1.

"Jan. 30, 1913.

"SIR,—I acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 29th inst. I would point out to you that actors and actresses on tour occupy apartments or hotels for such a period as they may be performing in the town they visit, which usually extends to one week only. Surely it cannot be said that the weekly changes constitute a change of residence within the meaning of the Act? Practically everybody in the dramatic profession has a permanent home address. It would appear that actors and variety artistes can only avail themselves of medical benefits when they are ill at home.

"The point is one of great importance to the rank and file of the profession. That is my excuse for pursuing the matter further.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

"(Signed) EDWARD FOSTER,
"Manager."

ENCLOSURE No. 3.
Copy of reply from N.I.C. in regard to Enclosure No. 2.

"Feb. 3, 1913.

"SIR,—With reference to your further letter of the 30th ult., I am directed to inform you that the Commissioners are at present considering representations as to the effect of constant changes of residence on the provision of medical benefit to insured persons, and it is probable that legal advice will be taken as to the interpretation to be placed on the medical benefit regulations in this connection.

"A further reply on this subject will be addressed to you in due course. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"(Signed) HENRY L. F. FRASER,
"Assistant Secretary."

[We trust that the official decision on this important point will not be unduly delayed.—ED. of "The Era."]

On Saturday night, at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, after the fall of the curtain at the conclusion of the performance, in response to repeated calls, Mr. Forbes-Robertson, whose remarkably vigorous impersonation of Dick Helder in "The Light That Failed" had so impressed the audience, after thanking the Portsmouth folks for the splendid support accorded during the week, contrasted the wonderful improvements in the drama and its presentation now with what it was when he (Mr. Robertson) nearly forty years ago made his début.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE.

A BALANCE-SHEET IN MAY.

Our representative met Mr. Heyer, the secretary of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund, on Thursday at the offices of the Fund in Dean's-yard, Westminster, and had an interesting chat with him on the subject which has created so much discussion of late in "The Era" and other papers. Mr. Heyer is warmly in sympathy with the theatrical side of the scheme, having been in his time a dramatic critic; and he, like ourselves, deplores the differences of opinion which have arisen between us and the Fund. "The whole matter has arisen from a misunderstanding," he said. "Possibly," replied our representative. "The only question is how did the misconception arise?"

"Well, you placed a wrong construction on our non-publication of a balance-sheet."

"We certainly could not understand it. However, 'The Era' is not hostile to the National Theatre scheme; indeed, quite recently we published a plan of the new site and an article giving full particulars of the proposed theatre. We only ask for information—I will not say for an 'explanation,' as the term might seem offensive. To come to the point—why have you not issued a balance-sheet?"

"I agree with you that an annual report should be issued to subscribers. But it was thought better to hold it over until we were abole to announce something definite about the site."

"It has been stated that a balance-sheet was always open to inspection of any member of the Executive Committee who chose to apply for it."

"Yes, that is so. And here let me say very distinctly that I have never had a letter *from any subscriber* asking for a report or accounts. We shall be shortly in a position to give our subscribers the information about the site to which I have alluded, and we propose to do this and present them with a report and balance-sheet either at the end of April or the beginning of May, when we shall hold a meeting of the Executive Committee and of the General Committee, which, as you know, numbers over 500.

"Then we, and all the well-wishers to the National Theatre, may look forward with confidence to the issue of a report and balance-sheet at the time you have mentioned."

"Certainly. We realise the importance of the support and sympathy of the public, and of securing all the assistance we can get from every source, and especially from the theatrical profession and the Press."

[In consideration of the promise given by the secretary that a meeting of the General Committee of the Fund will be held early in May, and a report and balance-sheet presented, we withhold a mass of correspondence on the subject, discussion of which, so far as we are concerned, is intermitted till after the meeting.—ED. of "The Era."]

"THE WAY IT'S DONE."

Play, in One Act, Presented at the Globe Theatre on Wednesday, Feb. 26.

Clarice Manette de Vere..Miss Shelley Calton
Major Vivian ..... Mr. Henry Ford
Reginald Bantock ..... Mr. Geoffrey Denys
Proprietor of Hotel ..... Mr. F. Tebbutt
Police Inspector ..... Mr. Guy Lane

The "confidence trick" is dramatised in the little play which replaced the curtain-raiser at the Queen's on Wednesday. It was not strictly the first production of the piece, which was given by the Play Actors at the Shaftesbury on July 14, 1910. The author's name is not given, but he is to be credited with an entertaining trifle, which also possesses some exciting moments. A lady has dropped her bag in the street, and it has been picked up and restored by Reginald Bantock, a youth from the country, who is accompanied by a loudly dressed military looking person, describing himself as a Major, with whom he has struck up an acquaintance. The lady, who declares the bag contains jewels of fabulous value, insists on rewarding the youth, and brings him and his companion to an hotel for the purpose. The reward she proposes to give is a curious one. By the terms of her late husband's will, she is empowered to confer on any deserving person in whom she has perfect confidence and who proves his trust in the donor the sum of £1,000, and Reginald is the one she has decided to select. It is only necessary for him to show his confidence in the lady by entrusting her with a sum of money—say £200—for the matter to be finally arranged. Reginald produces bank-notes to the value of £150 and lays them on the table, but refuses to take his hand off them. Suddenly the "Major" picks up the lady's bag and empties its contents on the floor, and while the youth is eagerly engaged picking up the stones, the "Major" secures the notes and he and his partner, rapidly assuming disguises, disappear, leaving Reginald to discover his loss, and frantically call for the police.

The piece was admirably acted, Miss Shelley Calton as the lady swindler proving herself an expert in the art of deception, her demure expression and refined style greatly aiding the effect. Mr. Henry Ford gave a clever character study as the pretended major, whose abortive efforts to rise above his Cockney manners was very amusing. The country youth was naturally suggested by Mr. Geoffrey Denys, and Mr. F. Tebbutt as the irate hotel keeper and Mr. Guy Lane as an officious police inspector completed the cast efficiently.

A bright interlude in the programme at the Globe is furnished by Bertram Wallis's Musketeers. The party make a very picturesque appearance in the costume of Dumas' famous heroes, though one's illusions regarding the redoubtable D'Artagnan are shattered by the appearance of the puny and semi-intoxicated Gascon, who is the comedian of the part and is full of drollery. The artistes sing tunefully and with vigour, Mr. Bertram Wallis's song, "The girl of my heart," being especially well done, while his recitation of a semi-comic Spanish poem is much enjoyed. Mr. Frederick Norton's burlesque of an Italian tenor and bass vocalist is the source of much merriment, and the quartette, "The Baby on the shore," proves irresistibly quaint. Mr. Allan Dale, Mr. Herbert Clayton, and Mr. Nelson Keys do invaluable work in the various selections.

"Ask Quesbury" is running to the accompaniment of hearty laughter. When it is said that Mr. Weedon Grossmith has a part that suits him it is evident that the enjoyment of the audience is complete.

Mr. B. Obermayer, European representative of the Sullivan and Considine Circuit, U.S.A., has removed the London office from 16, Green-street, Leicester-square, to Broadmead House, 21, Panton-street, W.

FIFTY-FIVE YEARS ON THE STAGE.

There are not many members of the theatrical profession living, writes a correspondent, who can go back seventy-one years ago as the time when they made their first acquaintance with the footlights. Such, however, is the record of Ella McCarthy (Mrs. E. W. Chamberlain), who, when eleven years old, essayed her initial appearance at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, taking the part of a gipsy's child in "Guy Mannering" in the year 1842.

Her father, after he left Trinity College, Dublin, lost a fortune of £14,000 in disastrous managerial speculation in Ireland. It seems a strange irony of fate that his daughter should have made the stage her profession; and that now, in the evening of her days, she is living, in somewhat sordid surroundings, on a pittance that barely supplies her with the cheapest necessities of life.

A few days ago we were talking together about bygone times. She compared the cold, repellent manner of Phelps, of whose company she was a member at Sadler's Wells, with the geniality of Mme. Celeste. And when she told me that her part was Nellie O'Neill in "The Green Bushes," Mme. Celeste taking Naomi, I asked her could she remember the song that gave the play its title?

"Ah! yes," she replied, her eyes brightening. "It was one of my best opportunities in the piece. I'll sing you a verse now."

Every word charmingly distinct, the delicate Irish accent rendered with simple pathos the lines of the old song:—

"Now when that he found that his true love had flown,
He stood like a lambkin that bleats all alone;
My true love has gone, she's forsaken me,
Then adieu the green bushes for ever, said he."

I thanked her. How must it have sounded fifty years ago? And then she went on to tell me of a little episode that happened after the Crimean War. She was in London at the time, having just finished a provincial tour. Napoleon III. and the Empress Eugenie were the guests of Queen Victoria, and there was to be a gala performance at Covent Garden with all the royalties present. She managed to see Augustus Harris, and asked him could he get her in somehow?

"Grand opera's not in your line, Miss McCarthy," he told her. "But though I can't give you anything to do in 'Rigoletto,' come and help fill the stage in the ballet."

The hardness of the mossy bank on which she reclined on that historic occasion, however, was temporarily forgotten. She had a good view of the Queen and Prince Albert, the Emperor and Empress. And how they appeared can best be expressed in her own words:—

"The Queen, with rosy cheeks, looked so little, and was wearing a blue dress; and sat chatting merrily to the Emperor most of the time. And the Empress Eugenie? Ah! she looked lovely in her beautiful white gown."

The gallery boys years ago were much more free and easy in their behaviour than they are at the present time. At Oldham once, when she was playing in "Lost in London," a Lancashire lad complimented her by the following remark, "Eh, Ella, tha be'est a damned good comic." It is perhaps hardly necessary to mention that the much more forcible vocal criticisms hurled at the villain on the same occasion were very severe.

In "The Lady of Lyons," "David Garrick," and "She Stoops to Conquer," Ella McCarthy and her husband played together in every principal town in the provinces. The latter was a leading member of J. S. Clarke's Haymarket company; and an early friendship with Edward Terry was more closely cemented later on at the old Strand Theatre, where they played together for some years.

When Phil May, her nephew, first came to London, he stayed for some time at her home. Phil had up to then done most of his paying work in water colour; and it was Walter Chamberlain's advice in those early days that made him the master of black-and-white that he eventually became.

Mrs. Hardcastle in "She Stoops to Conquer," Player Queen in "Hamlet," Nancy Sykes in "Oliver Twist," Helen in "The Hunchback," are but a few of the contrasting parts that Ella McCarthy played in the days of the old stock companies. And although in the course of fifty-five years' active work on the stage she never reached the high altitude of a "star" engagement in London, she was in her day well known in the Metropolis. But she still remembers the friendship of her brothers and sisters of the profession; the applause, good wishes and goodwill of many thousands of British playgoers of the long ago.

A NEW DRAMATIC SCHOOL.

Mr. Gordon Craig has a scheme to establish a new dramatic academy. Through the generosity of Lord Howard de Walden, the "Gordon Craig School" for the art of the theatre is able to commence thoroughly equipped. It is under the sole direction of Mr. Edward Gordon Craig, and will aim at "infusing the life of imagination into every art and craft connected with the stage, so that fresh vigour will be given to the creative powers of those actively connected with the drama." It will consist of a body of earnest and thorough workers, who, inspired by Mr. Craig, and building with him upon the foundations of his past work, will strive by means of experiment and research to "rediscover and recreate some of those magic and elemental principles of beauty, simplicity, and grace in a department of the art world from which at present they are conspicuously absent."

"The school," says Mr. Craig, "differs from the other schools in a few respects, one of them being that its members are limited in number, and are to be paid instead of paying. In addition to this experimental school and in connection with it, there will be a secondary school for the study of the crafts of the stage, speech, movement, scene, costume, light, and the making of what is known as properties. All pupils desiring to join will have to take up the study of speech and movement, and they may also select one other craft which they would like to study. The Hungarian system of a three years' course will be followed. At the end of the first year examinations will be held, and those who are found unfitted for the work will discontinue their studies. The fees will be 12 guineas per term. There will be three terms of about twelve weeks each year. There will be six scholarships, which will be awarded at the end of the first year. Winners of these scholarships will be entitled to receive free tuition for the remaining two years of their course. The school will have its own theatre, which will be a full-sized one, and will be equipped with everything necessary."

Once a week Mr. Craig will call a certain number of the pupils together, and despatch them separately into different parts of the City, with instructions to note and observe, and after a couple of hours' absence bring back to him whatsoever of a dramatic character they may have remarked in their wanderings. Each pupil will then reproduce on the stage in pantomime the particular occurrence which has struck him most

"The Indian Scout," a drama of wild life and adventure," is to be staged at the New Middlesex next week, with a variety section consisting of Agnes Treacy, Professor Thornbury, and Drawee, Hambo and Frisco.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA DEMOISELLE DE MAGASIN."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Franz Fonson and Fernand Wicheler, Produced at the Gymnase on Feb. 13.

Claire François .....Mlle. Jane Delmar
Mme. Deridder .....Mme. Charmal
Lucette .....Mlle. Dieudonné
Mme. Dumont .....Mme. Varna
Angèle Dumont .....Mlle. Grandet
Deridder .....M. A. Jacque
Amelin .....M. Duquesne
André .....M. Jules Berry
Antoine .....M. Mylo
Henry Amelin .....M. Gadéra

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, Feb. 20.—This play is by the authors of "Mlle. Beulemans," which, it will be remembered, enjoyed a long run here. Their new venture, likewise amusing, a bit sentimental, was very warmly received. M. Deridder keeps a furniture shop in the good city of Brussels. He is good-natured, hard-working, but woefully old-fashioned, for his ideas in regard to upholstering have not undergone a change ever since he took over his father's business, with the result that things are not very flourishing with him. He has a daughter, Mlle. Lucette, who "learns the piano," and a son, André, studying for the Bar. But a young girl enters the shop, and, in a timid voice, asks Deridder whether he does not require a saleswoman. Deridder and his wife look at one another in surprise. Neither his grandfather, nor his father, nor he, ever had a "shopgirl" in the house; but Mme. Deridder whispers to her husband urging him to engage the girl on the spot. Why? Because Mme. Deridder noticed "that the girl opened the shop-door with her left hand," and in the Deridder family it is well known that whenever somebody called on them, opening the door with the left hand, it always proved lucky. Mlle. Claire, the girl, is therefore engaged on the spot, and she at once revolutionises the house. She dresses the window in an exquisite manner, she seems to cast a spell on the clients, who begin to swarm to the shop, and, thanks to her, business is going splendidly. It need hardly be said that all lose their hearts to her: Antoine, Deridder's factotum; André Deridder; Amelin, Deridder's landlord; and Henry, the latter's son. In the second act three years have elapsed. The little shop has blossomed into a huge establishment, for, thanks to Claire, the rich Amelin has engaged his capital in the undertaking, and he who at one time devoted all his time to his race-horses, now never leaves the shop, so as to be always near the fascinating Claire; whilst Deridder, having developed into a racing man, attends to Amelin's stables. André Deridder loves the girl with all his heart, and Claire reciprocates the feeling; but she knows very well that Deridder, now a wealthy man, will never consent to his son marrying a shop girl, and she therefore tells André that she has lost her heart to Antoine, the clerk. In the final act we assist at a fête at Deridder's house. Deridder has just been decorated by the King, and the new "Chevalier de l'ordre de Léopold" has offered a banquet to his friends. André proposes to Claire, who once more declines to become his wife. After André has left the room Amelin, senior, finds Claire in tears. The old beau then offers her untold gold if she consents to become his mistress, and when she refuses he asks her to marry him. The distressed girl gives him to understand that she loves André, whereupon the old beau at once shows himself generous and kind. He calls in Deridder and informs him that unless he gives his consent to his son's marriage with Claire, he (Amelin) will at once withdraw all his capital from the business. And Deridder, who all along has forgotten that he owes his good fortune to Claire, is now compelled to accept the "shop-girl" as his daughter-in-law. M. Jacque, a remarkably clever actor, plays the leading part in the new comedy, and his droll ways and funny Belgian accent raised roars of laughter. Mlle. Delmar was a graceful and charming shopgirl; and M. Duquesne gave a delightful sketch of the elderly and love-sick Amelin.

"LA MAISON DIVISEE."

Play, in Three Acts, by M. André Fernet, Produced at the Odéon on Feb. 15.

Catherine Helmer .....Mlle. Ventura
Comtesse de Berg .....Mlle. Grumbach
Marie Wolfing .....Mlle. André
Comte de Berg .....M. Desjardins
Levyson .....M. Denis d'Inès
Jean de Berg .....M. Hervé
Krauss .....M. Coste
Le Roi .....M. Bertin
Général Hartmann .....M. Chambreuil
Osten .....M. Bonvallet

This is the maiden effort of a very young man, but it is a clever work, very pathetic, and created a deep impression. In the opening act we are in the Royal palace of the young King. His Majesty's subjects are not satisfied; and Berg, the Prime Minister, a stern man, is awaiting a deputation of the malcontents, who want to complain of the harsh treatment to which they are subjected. The deputation enters, and, to Berg's horror, it is headed by Jean, his own son, who has joined the revolutionaries. The meeting is short, but violent. Berg refuses to grant whatever the deputation expect of him, whereupon the latter threaten to employ force. When Berg is alone, a feeling of fear comes over him. It will be his duty to call out the troops, with orders to fire on the mob. Yet he knows that this will be the death warrant of his son, who said that his place will be among the leaders, in the front rank. Berg, therefore, informs the young King that he wants to resign his post; but the latter implores him to stay, and Berg is compelled to obey the King's commands. The scene that follows is pathetic. The Chief of the Police and the General in command of the troops come to Berg for orders, laying stress on the fact that the rioters are threatening the palace; but, to their surprise, Berg, the strong man, withholds his consent for firing on the people. He only thinks of his son, but duty at last compels him to assume a bold attitude, and he issues the necessary orders. Shots are heard in the distance, followed by faint shouts, and then all is quiet. In the last act we are in a poorly furnished room where a body, covered by a sheet, is lying on the bed. It is the body of Jean. The door opens, and Berg enters. His son's friends want to rush at him, but Jean's young wife orders them to depart, and Berg and his daughter-in-law remain alone. Berg asks her to let him take charge of his grandchild, but the widow refuses. Berg and she represent two ideas, opposed to one another. A discussion between them is useless; but she will retain her child, who, one day, will avenge his father's death.

The well-known Liverpool Green Room Amateur Dramatic Society will on March 10 present "Paid in Full" at the Repertory Theatre. This will be the first appearance of the play in the provinces.

Mr. Wilfrid Compton is a most versatile actor. In 1912 he played the following parts: Sir Chas. Hampshire in "The Night of the Party," Hamilton Travers (the actor) in "Are You a Mason," Mr. Kershaw in "Jane," General Stanhope in "Tom, Dick, and Harry," Jack Desborough in "My Lady Help," comedy part and ra[illegible], and with "A Daughter of the Sea," Han[illegible] in "The Walls of Jericho," and [illegible] season was engaged as acting-ma[illegible]ons, [illegible] Elliston's "Puss in Boots." [illegible] several engagements wi[illegible]a T[illegible] tary," "Our Flat," an[illegible] dies, and has also pl[illegible] well known sketch[illegible]

VARIETY GOSSIP

Miss Cecilia Loftus fainted at a rehearsal in Memphis, Tennessee, on Monday, and on Tuesday, says a "Daily Telegraph" correspondent, symptoms threatening pneumonia supervened. At her hotel it was said that Miss Loftus, who contracted a cold in Pittsburg last week, was in a condition necessitating great care and rest. She had been booked to appear at the Orpheum Theatre, Memphis, when she fell ill.

In answer to sympathetic inquiries on Wednesday, Miss Hilda Norton, secretary to Miss Loftus, cables:—"Miss Loftus extremely weak, after severe attack of grippe, but mending rapidly, under care of doctor and two nurses, and hopes to be at work again soon." Mr. Ben Brown called at our office on Thursday and confirmed this latest bulletin.

Next week—Thursday, March 6, to be precise—we shall be in the throes of a County Council election, and the virtues and drawbacks of the policies of Progressives and Moderates have been discussed in the leading daily organs during the week. We have the usual dose of piffle regarding the temperance policy of the Progressives. In reference to this the "Daily Chronicle" is responsible for the following:—

"From the standpoint of the Hippodrome the grant of the licence to sell intoxicants would be regrettable because, since it is packed twice a day, it cannot be suffering from any financial loss from the lack of a drink licence, and undoubtedly the absence of such a licence is an attraction to many. In no house of variety entertainment are young people to be found in such numbers as in the Hippodrome, the Coliseum, and the Palladium."

The Palladium has the drink licence, so that the smug reflections of our contemporary are not correct, and notwithstanding the enormous success of the present programme at the Hippodrome, we are quite certain that the absence of a licence is no attraction. On the contrary, visitors accustomed to the usual facilities for refreshments in the West End theatres and at such houses as Palace, Empire, and Alhambra, are loud in their complaints of the injustice of the veto. Overborne in their decisions by the votes of cranks, the L.C.C. ignore the fact that the advance of temperance is such that the drink takings at halls where intoxicants are sold have dropped 50 per cent. Let us hope that the Moderate majority will be sufficient to give the Hippodrome and the Coliseum the same facilities for drink as are granted without question to rival entertainment houses in their neighbourhood.

Vocalists of the calibre of Miss Florence Smithson are rare, and it gives us much pleasure to announce her return to the variety stage after the run of the Drury Lane pantomime, where, by the way, her success as the Sleeping Beauty has been so pronounced as to lead to her re-engagement by Mr. Arthur Collins next year. Miss Smithson's tour will last throughout the year, and includes two long visits to the Coliseum, where it will be remembered she created a furore last summer. Her marked success on that occasion has doubtless swayed the famous prima donna of "The Arcadians" in her decision to transfer her favours from the musical comedy stage to the realm of the halls, at any rate for a time.

We have before us an extract from the "Transvaal Leader" of Jan. 22, containing a report of a case wherein a "handcuff king," calling himself Houdini, was sentenced at Capetown to a month's imprisonment with hard labour for gross cruelty to a boy, "the son of his reputed wife." This unscrupulous person has not only filched the name of a performer honoured and respected through the hemispheres, but has besmirched it; and to Harry Houdini such a case as we have quoted must be most exasperating. He has, however, never been in South Africa, and though such a disclaimer would be considered unnecessary by his friends in various parts of the world—there are others! Calumny is difficult to kill, and we hope colonial and American journals will not hesitate to copy this paragraph.

"Bungle's Luck," produced at the Bedminster Hippodrome this week, sees Mr. Kitchen in a new rôle—that of actor-manager. In less than a month's time the sketch is to be submitted to a London audience, and when it has been stamped with the seal of a London success, as it assuredly will be, it is to be hoped Mr. Kitchen will not have forgotten that Bristol did not fail to recognise the merits of his first venture. Mr. Kitcher has achieved his ambition by staging his own production in just the manner that he pleased, and it is a safe prophecy that none of the managers concerned will regret the £35,000 worth of contracts already entered into with the famous comedian. He received between three and four hundred telegrams on Monday.

So familiar is the name of Fred Kitchen in Bristol that it will come as a positive shock to many to learn that the present is the comedian's first appearance in this city, says the "Bristol Evening News." In a remarkably interesting career extending over 36 years—he is 39 years of age—he has played in practically every corner of Europe save Bristol and Plymouth, and he goes to Plymouth next week.

Although not so famous as such stage families as the Broughs, the Irvings, the Terrys, the Grossmiths, Mr. Kitchen comes from a good theatrical stock. Kitchen, sen., was a contemporary of Phelps, and in days when the harlequinade was only a shade less important than the pantomime, he was a peerless clown. In 1839 he attended a command performance at Buckingham Palace, and his dancing greatly pleased Queen Victoria. Some 60 years ago he appeared in pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, and it is noteworthy that his wife, who played with him, is still alive and well.

A very interesting private representation was given at the Camberwell Palace this week, under the comprehensive title, "The Tableauscope," by Mr. Cyrus Bertoyn's company. From within a gilt frame eleven feet square, with a tapestry background, well judged lighting effects, and accompanied by elaborate, artistic, and appropriately dressed scenic effects, a series of eight pictures of a highly diverting and pleasing character were presented to the audience. The artistes engaged in this representation were Mr. Cyrus [illegible]oyn, Miss Lorraine Gillespie, Miss Valerie [illegible]don, and Mr. M. Bertram Moore (the enter[illegible]manager of the company); and the diver[illegible]with [illegible]acter of the interesting entertainment [illegible]ated by mentioning that the pictures [illegible] of th[illegible]d "Nemesis," "The Whip," [illegible]Br[illegible] Craze," Dickens' "Death of [illegible]N.Z. the Cross," "Light of the [illegible]her prize." The sole agents for [illegible] repres[illegible] Jack Goodson, Ltd., of [illegible]e, Adelphi, a box office success [illegible] — [illegible]tative, [illegible] assured. [illegible]combe.

Westminster City Council on Thursday granted permission to the London Coliseum to light the globe on the top of the tower. Formerly the globe was a well-known beacon at night, when it bore illuminated letters and revolved. This was stopped by magistrate's order on the ground that the globe was a "sky sign."

Is there a demand for serious or tragic sketches in the halls? is the question that is being discussed in a Sunday paper. It would seem so, if one may judge by the immediate success of "The Tigress," which created so strong an impression at the Tottenham Palace last week. On Monday next Miss Ella Erskine, whose performance of Lola stamps her as an actress with the rare gift of tragedy, will take her company to the Chelsea Palace and the Camberwell Empire, where "The Tigress" will top the bill.

"Only two weeks out since production" is the record of "Silver Creek," which returns to town once more after a highly successful tour of 28 weeks, embracing Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Nottingham, Glasgow, Belfast, &c., and most of the important towns. No expense has been spared to make this sketch the best of its kind. Miss Helena Millais is to be congratulated on her "record breaker," and managers who are "in doubt" are requested to see it without delay at Harry Bawn's cosy Empire at Edmonton, where it opens on Monday.

Miss Louie Tracy, the Dapper Dandy Boy, concludes to-night a successful four weeks' engagement at the London Pavilion, and commences a short provincial tour on Monday at the Empire, Liverpool. Miss Tracy has also just concluded a three years' engagement with the Gibbons Tour, and has been re-booked by Mr. Chas. Gulliver for his circuit until the end of 1916.

Limiting the first visit to Liverpool of the Palladium Minstrels to one week has greatly disappointed large numbers of people who have been unable to secure admission to the Olympia, despite the fact that three shows are given daily and the vast place will hold 4,000 people. For about thirty years St. James's Hall, Liverpool, was the home of Sam Hague's Minstels, and during that long period the Mersey city gave the combination strong support, so that the revival of minstrelsy by the Palladium artistes was received with unbounded delight. On Monday evening the Lord Mayor, Lady Mayoress, and many distinguished citizens were among the enormous audience.

Mr. F. Dudman Bromwich has just been appointed manager of the Grand Theatre of Varieties, Hanley, in succession to Mr. A. Rand. Though a native of Derby, Mr. Bromwich has spent nearly all his days in the Metropolis. He has been an actor for eighteen years. He was manager on tour for Mrs. Langtry, for Leonard Boyne, and many others. He leased the King's Theatre, Hoxton, for some time. With "His House in Order" he toured four years. He played the leads in "Sowing the Wind," "A Woman of No Importance," "Captain Swift," etc. Although Mr. Bromwich has hitherto been more closely associated with the legitimate, he is not without experience of the management of the up-to-date variety hall. For two and a half years he has played in a sketch, "The Adder's Tooth," by Mr. T. H. Hanshew, produced by Mr. Leonard Mortimer.

A benefit performance is being arranged at Glasgow for Mr. Tom Davis, an old performer in negro minstrelsy, and for years a member of that well-known team, Rice, Melrose, Davis, and the Half. He has been manager for Pringle's Bijou Picture Hall in Glasgow for some time, and, being over seventy, finds the strenuous duties of the profession a bit hard on him. An influential committee is being formed, headed by Mr. Chas. Austin ("King Rat"), and it is hoped that the coming benefit will be of material assistance to Mr. Davis. His former partner, Rice, was at one time with Mr. D'Albert, the father of George D'Albert, at one time a pupil of George Chirgwin.

"The Son of a Jew" is being presented at the Holborn Empire this week, and has been, as usual, meeting nightly with the most flattering receptions. The company concludes to-night a long and successful tour in the suburbs, and to-morrow starts out on an extensive run in the provinces, returning to London in the summer. The cast in every respect will be the same as seen in town, Mr. Herbert Landeck personally conducting the tour, as well as repeating his very fine performance of the Jew parent. Mr. Howard Brenan will repeat his inimitable impersonation of the Son. As before, the company includes Mr. Douglas Hamilton and Miss Winifred Pearson.

The Grand Guignol, Paris, is synonymous with horror and sensation, but the flourishing little house provides many side-splitting farces to balance the more serious side of its programmes. This will be the case in Mr. Charles Gulliver's promised new experiment at some of the suburban halls. "Striking Home," "The Medium," and "Seven Blind Men," all adapted from the French by Mr. Jose G. Levy, and produced at the Palladium by Mr. Arthur Bourchier, are the plays chosen to stimulate the emotions, and three new and original farces, viz., "Snore—and You Sleep Alone," by Jose G. Levy and Lionel Geldman; "Cupid Unlimited," by Jose G. Levy and Percy Barrow; and "French Leave," an adaptation from the French of Dr. Miller by Percy Barrow, will provide the laughs of the entertainment.

There will be six one-act plays given at each performance, and twice nightly. Each play will be complete in itself with its own scenery and effects, and specially selected players are acting in most of the sketches. La Rubia, who made such a success in the part of the model in "The Medium" at the Palladium, will not only play this part again, but will appear in four other parts at each performance, and this twice nightly. Mr. Roland Pertwee, Mr. Lancelot Lowder, Mr. C. A. Wenlock Brown, and Miss Lucy Sibley will all appear in three of the plays mentioned.

Miss Florrie Forde, with her pantomime "Babes in the Wood," has been playing to such enormous business everywhere that she has persuaded Mr. Frank Laidler to release her from her pantomime engagements at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, 1913-14, and the Prince's Theatre, Bradford, 1914-15, to enable her to produce her own pantomimes. "Red Riding Hood" is the subject chosen for Miss Forde's next pantomime production, which is already fully booked.

Miss Anna Eva Fay, the celebrated American mystic, demonstrates her remarkable telepathic powers at the Manchester Hippodrome this week. Miss Fay has already won her spurs in this country by her successful performances at the London Coliseum, where she predicted the election of M. Poincaré to the French Presidency, a fact, it may be added, which may be confirmed by reference to the "Daily Telegraph" of Friday, Feb. 14. A rapid fire of answers to questions relating to business, to love affairs, to domestic worries, to contemplated changes in position or residence, and to numerous other things of personal interest, is one of the features of Miss Fay's performance, but what is even more wonderful is that the questions are not given verbally, but are written down on slips of paper, which are signed and hidden away in the pockets of her querists.

The production of "Stolen Fruit," which was to have been seen on Monday at the Tivoli, is postponed until March 10.

Florence Smithers, Owen Dacroy and Co., are sailing from Southampton to-day by the Kenilworth Castle for Cape Town for a tour with Africa's Amalgamated Theatres, Ltd.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten has gone for a three months' trip to Australia, sailing on the s.s. Orama, which left Toulon on the 20th inst. During his absence Mr. Sydney Arthur, who has been his friend and colleague for thirty years, will manage his affairs.

In consequence of a chill contracted at Preston Marie Loftus was unable to appear on Tuesday night at the Pavilion, Liverpool. This was unfortunate, for, although apparently hoarse, she achieved a most brilliant success on Monday.

The annual ball of the Grand Order of Water Rats is always a convivial happening, and each succeeding celebration of the fraternity is more joyous than the former. The entire suite of rooms at the Trocadero to-morrow (Sunday) will, therefore, hold a merry crowd of the boys and girls of the profession, welcomed to the function by Mr. Charles Austin (King Rat), journeying up specially from Nottingham, and his charming wife, who will hold a reception from 9.30 to 10.30, when supper will be served. Dancing will commence at 12, and there will be a merry riot of impromptu fun, with the inevitable rag-time. The band will be conducted by Leon Bassett.

Miss Cressie Leonard sailed from Southampton aboard the Edinburgh Castle on Saturday for Cape Town on a starring tour with the Amalgamated Theatres Co. She had a big send-off from a number of professional friends at Waterloo Station.

Tom Woottwell writes from the Palace, Leicester, under date 25th inst.:—"Just received a wire from a neighbour at Highgate: 'House broken into; everything destroyed that they couldn't take.' Am catching next train to London. First time I have ever left the house empty. Am only insured for fire."

At the moment of going to press we regret to learn through Mr. Earle Reynolds (of Reynolds and Donegan) of the death, early on Thursday morning, of the wife of Mr. Gene Greene, the "ragtime King," who appeared a short time since at the Palace Theatre. The deceased lady had gone to Dresden to take the cure for diabetes, to which disease she succumbed. The news of her death reached the husband at Sheffield, where he is performing this week.

With her husband the deceased lady appeared in American vaudeville as Gene Greene and Blanche Werner. They were responsible some years ago for a black-faced act known as "In Dahomey." Mr. Gene Greene will take the remains back to America, and they will be interred in Chicago, where the deceased lady was born.

The important post of orchestral chief at the Gaiety is shortly to be left vacant by the retirement, at the age of sixty-five, of Mr. Leopold Wenzel, whose place will be filled by Mr. George Byng, late musical-director at the Alhambra. Mr. Wenzel succeeded Hervé as musical-director of the Empire in December, 1889, and his first ballet there was "Dream of Wealth," which was performed 315 times. He also composed no fewer than nineteen ballets, and likewise supplied the music for "Orféo," "Katrina," and "The Butterfly." He went to the Gaiety on the performance of "Peggy." Like his predecessor at the Gaiety, Mr. Byng has written much music for many ballet productions.

Sailing from Southampton for New York to-day, per s.s Minnehaha, Terry and Lambert (Mr. and Mrs. John Terry and Master Jack), who have just completed a 30 weeks' tour of England, since their return from a world's tour last August, which, as Mr. Terry avers, has been most successful and enjoyable. They will return at the end of July to commence their English season with a month at the London Hippodrome on Aug. 11, and continue uninterruptedly until March, 1914. "A fond au revoir to all dear friends and acquaintances, and wishing them prosperity and happiness this summer in dear old England" is the message sent by them through our columns. Bon voyage!

A new farcical sketch, by J. R. Harold Terry, entitled "Knight of the Garter," in which Mr. John Deverell and others will appear, is to be produced on Monday at the Tivoli, where, on the same date, Harry Williams and Nat D. Ayer, the American popular song-writers, will make their first appearance in Europe in a few of their latest compositions. They are the composers of such successful numbers as "Oh! you beautiful doll," "In the shade of the old apple tree," "I'm afraid to go home in the dark," and "Navajo." They will appear at the Tivoli on Monday.

An interesting engagement, too, at the cosy house, so ably managed by Joe Wilson, is that of Ida Crispi and Fred Farren, fresh from their Empire success, who will appear in some new whirlwind dances. The duo should have appeared at the command performance last July, and their appearance at the Tivoli therefore is a capital stroke of managerial policy.

Miss Marie Corelli, the novelist, is the plaintiff in an action in the Chancery Division against Mr. George Gray. Miss Corelli seeks an injunction to restrain Mr. Gray and his company from continuing to perform "The People's King," the sketch recently produced at the Chelsea Palace, in which several characters, it will be remembered, were made up to represent Ministers in the present Cabinet, on the ground that it is an infringement of the copyright of the dramatic version of her novel, "Temporal Power." In "The People's King" Mr. Gray appears as the prince, who, in disguise, wanders among his people, learns the evils of oppression, and on attaining power rights their wrongs.

Mr. Louis Meyer, who gave "The Glad Eye" to London, is establishing a new era in vaudeville by presenting in forty minutes Clyde Fitch's fine play "A Woman in the Case," which was so great a success at the Garrick. The scene of the experiment will be the Shoreditch Empire, and Cissie Lawson will play Miss Violet Vanbrugh's original part, that of the adventuress

Mr. E. W. Rogers, the song-writer, who passed away on Friday, 21st ult., at the age of forty-nine, was one of the most modest of men. His compositions must have run into four figures, but he will be remembered for having provided Charles Godfrey with one of his greatest hits. "Hi-tiddley-hi-ti." Those were the days when the "drunken" song was quite a popular feature of the entertainment, and there was a surfeit of such things. Songs of a healthier kind from Rogers's pen were "Baby" and "Skylark," which owed their great popularity to the fine rendering given to them by Mr. Arthur Lennard. "Following in father's footsteps" for Miss Vesta Tilley was perhaps his final triumph. In his earlier years Mr. Rogers was associated with a partner named Durandeau. He was buried on Monday in Wandsworth Cemetery.

FEDERATION AND FUNDS.

Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association.

The annual dinner and dance will take place on Sunday, March 9, at the Criterion Restaurant (Grand Hall). Mr. Joe Elvin, president, who will take the chair, will be supported by many prominent members of the allied societies. The M.H.A.R.A. grand orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Alfred Groves, has been specially engaged. The reception is at 7, the dinner at 7.30, the conversazione at 11, and the dance from 12 to 5. Tickets for dinner and dance, 6s., can be obtained from Mr. C. Douglas Stuart, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

Early application should be made by those who desire to bring parties of friends so that arrangements can be made for them at the tables.

Complaints having been received from the railway companies that some members travelling from London are in the habit of themselves ordering reserved seats, or compartments, by letter, as well as such accommodation being ordered by the Association, they are kindly requested to cease doing this and leave all arrangements with the Head Offices.

Members are informed that the committee have decided to discontinue several agencies in the districts around Cardiff, and therefore they must in these town write early in the week and have their names entered on the list at the Cardiff agency.

V. A. B. F. and I.

Joe Elvin, who is always thinking of the welfare and happiness of the old folk at the Institution, invited them all to the Empire, Kingston, last Thursday evening, where he was appearing. They drove over in a private omnibus and brougham, and after the performance the founder of the Institution went over with them to the Wheelwrights' Arms, kept by Mr. Jacob (one of the Noble 600), where a pleasant half-hour was spent, and then they drove home again. The party were in the charge of Mr. T. C. Callaghan, the superintendent, and Mr. C. Douglas Stuart, the secretary, was present. Needless to say, generous Joe paid all the expenses, and wishes to repeat the excursion.

The committee desire to thank Miss Helen Brinckman, a kind and constant supporter of the Institution, for a large parcel of useful clothing.

Mr. Chas. Kasrac is also thanked by the committee for his kind present of five thermometers for use in the gardens of Brinsworth.

The annual general meeting of the Fund and Institution will be held on Sunday, March 16, at 7.30, at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, when the report of the committee for the past year will be submitted, also the statement of the receipts and expenditure.

Sir George Alexander has sent the following letter, with cheque enclosed for £10, to the Secretary V.A.B.F. and I.:—"Having appeared at the Palace Theatre for a short engagement, I feel that I should like to give a donation to the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and Institution. I enclose a cheque for ten pounds, with my good wishes." The committee are sincerely thankful to Sir George for his kind remembrance of this charity.

The Secretary begs to acknowledge receipt of £4 received from the Union ss. Co., being a portion of the proceeds of a concert held on board the R.M.S. Edinburgh Castle, at which the following artistes appeared:—Billy Hobbs, Miss Marion Scott, Miss Joyce Vernon, Fred Elmo, Athlone and Sinclair. The committee extend their thanks to all concerned.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

Miss Melinda May (Secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild), desires, on behalf of the Committee to thank the following:—Mrs. Kasrac (the Kasracs), collecting 11s. 6d.; Miss Irene Rose, gents' dressing gown; Miss Alexandra Dagmar, afternoon teacloth; Mrs. Chas. Coborn, gents' socks; Mrs. Gintaro, gents' and ladies' boots and shoes; Mrs. Fred Kitchen, useful box of clothing; Mr. Mark Leslie, new office clock (per Miss Julia Reeve); also Terry and Lambert for box of clothing. Miss May Erne has been elected a committee member.

Friends of the Charity are heartily welcome to tea and reception held every Wednesday, four to five o'clock.

Beneficent Order of Terriers.

The final meeting of the Watch Dogs took place on Friday last, no further meetings being necessary. Applications for membership are made (first notice) by Daniel McDougal and Jack Thomas, (second notice) Joseph Edwin Osgood and Hans Peter Christian Olsen (The Kotos), and (third notice) Leslie Harris and Fred Zarinella.

At the meeting on Sunday last Terrier Syd Walker acted as W.I., Terrier Chris Baker as W.D., and Terrier Billy Day as Y.B. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Syd Walker, Harry Cartwright, Tom Moore, Douglas Ascot, Ben Whiteley, Phil Ascot, Jack Cosgrove, Walter Dale, and Ernest Powell upon their reappearance in the kennel.

The election of officers for March resulted as follows: W.T., Terrier Bert Marsden; V.T., Terrier Chris Baker; Organist, Terrier Arthur Were. The new badge in the form of a small gold terrier is now in hand. Full particulars will be forwarded to Terriers.

Terriers are requested to notify the secretary as to the number of tickets they require for the M.H.A.R.A. dinner and ball on March 9 (when the lodge will be closed), and also for the Terriers' dinner and concert on April 6.

The presentation of the first P.W.T. jewel of the Order will be made on Sunday next to Terrier Harry Falls.

Music Hall Home.

At a committee meeting of the Music Hall Home, held on Friday, Feb. 21, Mr. Harry Barnard in the chair, supported by Messrs. Arthur Were, Syd. Walker, Ernest Powell, T. C. Callaghan, Bert Marsden, W. R. Dunkley, Harry Gribben, Ben Woodger, and J. Sparrow, it was arranged that the committee meetings in future be held at 3.30 p.m.

The matron wishes to thank Mr. W. J. Saunders, of the Royal Southampton Yacht Club, for a valuable parcel of clothing sent per Mr. H. Yardley, of the Hippodrome, Southampton, also Mrs. Ernest Collins for useful articles.

Card collectors wishing their amounts to be published in the first list are reminded to hurry up. The next committee meeting will be held on Friday, March 7, at the Three Stags, 69, Kennington-road, S.E., at 3.30.

Adele Levey on April 18 starts her fourth year as a raconteuse, and has been so happy and successful, and is so well, and "such good pals with the world and everyone in it," that she intends to give her whole week's earnings to charity on April 23, paying all expenses out of her own pocket.

Following upon a most successful exhibition of his skill before the Press on Wednesday last, Mr. Fred M. Tallman, who holds the world's record for pocket billiards with a high run of 105 balls and a one-handed run of 77 balls, opens at the Oxford on Monday next. By means of a mirror every person in the hall is able comfortably to watch every shot the champion plays. This act, quite unique in character, is likely to cause a sensation amongst billiard players.

ACTS, ARTISTES, AND AGENTS.

Miss Cressie Leonard, also Loates and Stockdale and Jock McPherson, sailed by R.M.S. Edinburgh Castle last Saturday to play "Africa's Amalgamated" tour, and this week Mr. Rufe Naylor will despatch Miss Florence Smithers and Co., Hal Morton, and Lilian Arnold for the same circuit.

Owing to the great progress of his agency at 132, Charing Cross-road, Mr. Arthur Jefferson has been compelled to request the Moss' Empires, Ltd., to postpone the bookings of his sketch, "A Night in Society," in which he plays the leading part of Bobbie Naxter. Mr. Allen has kindly agreed to do this. The tour was originally booked as the result of a one-night trial performance.

Mlle. Lotte Sarrow, the clever Russian actress, opens at the Palladium on Monday next in her mimodrama, "She Pays the Penalty." Mlle. Sarrow has just concluded a highly successful tour on the Riviera and in France, so that her appearance here is anticipated with more than usual interest. Her business is in the hands of Paul Schultze's Agency.

Owing to illness Hedges Bros. and Jacobsen have been out of the Tivoli bill since Tuesday. Their place has been filled by the Two Johnnies, Guy and Grahame, who have already established a gratifying popularity at the Strand establishment.

Helen Frederick and Co. present, through Julian Wylie, a new act, entitled "The Audition," at the Kilburn Empire this week. As a vocal entertainment it has met with encouraging success, and Mr. Wylie should find no difficulty in placing the act to advantage.

Recent bookings of Mr. George Foster include the Four Merry Messenger Boys, who opened at the London Opera House on Monday; Hugh MacFayden, who appeared at the Metropolitan; and the Quigley Bros., "the Irish M.P.s," who make their first London appearance at Finsbury Park Empire on Monday.

Mr. Tom Griffin's Agency, Liverpool, is responsible for the booking of Reardon, Wilson and Douitt, who opened on the Moss tour at the Empire, Glasgow, on Monday.

Mr. B. Obermayer now represents the Sullivan and Considine Circuit at Broadmead House, 21, Panton-street, S.W., where all communications should be addressed.

Mr. F. Lamport is no longer connected with Messrs. Ashton and Mitchell's Agency, now doing business at their temporary address, 36, Gerrard-street.

Cunning, the American jail breaker, will make his first appearance in Great Britain on Monday evening, March 10, at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, W., supported by a company of English and American artistes. He has surely won for himself the title bestowed on him by the Press of America, "The Wizard of the Twentieth Century." Cunning prizes amongst his most famous escapes one that should be of interest to all Britishers, the escape from the dungeon in which was incarcerated Czolgosz, the murderer of McKinley, the President, loved in his own country and admired in ours. This thrilling escape took place in the Erie County Penitentiary, Buffalo, N.Y., before an enthusiastic audience.

Miss Marie Lloyd, the celebrated comedienne, has been engaged to appear at Shepherd's Bush Empire next week. This will be her first appearance in the London district since she fulfilled a short and triumphant provincial tour.

Arthur Lennard sails to-day (March 1) on the Kenilworth Castle for a holiday trip to Madeira. He returns on Easter Monday, when he opens at the New Middlesex.

As a result of her successful début on the variety stage at the London Pavilion last autumn Miss Dorothy Varick returns on Monday with new songs.

Austin Boyd, Trixie Gilfain, and La Danseuse have now amalgamated to form a trio, to be known as the Gilfillans, in their drawing-room entertainment. They have just concluded a most successful tour with Edgar Hyman in South Africa, where they were booked for eight weeks, and stayed fourteen.

The Kosloff Company, whose successful engagement at the Coliseum in "Scheherazade" comes to an end on Saturday after a season of four weeks, will make their first appearance on Monday in Liverpool, where they will appear at the Shakespeare Theatre. In addition to "Scheherazade," in which Mr. Theodore Kosloff, Mr. Alexis Kosloff, and Mlle. Baldini, with all the members of the present company, will appear, the programme will include a classical ballet as well as divertissements, and will be practically the same as that which attracted such universal admiration at the Dome, Brighton, at the end of January.

Miss Margaret Moffat, having just returned from America, where she played the lead in "The Drone," with the Ulster players, under the management of Wm. A. Brady, will make her first London appearance since "Just Like a Woman," at the Coliseum on Monday next. The vehicle of her reappearance will be an "entirely different" sketch, which Sewell Collins has written for her, in which she will have the opportunity of proving her versatility. It is called "The Scrub Lady." Supporting her will be a carefully chosen cast, including Mr. George Stephenson, Mr. Alfred Field-Fisher, Mr. Victor Kerr, and Mr. Patrick S. Murray. "The Scrub Lady" was produced at the Hippodrome, Manchester, on Monday.

Miss Mildred Blanchard produced her new sketch, "The Future Mrs. Ward; or, A Girl from the Country," at the Balham Hippodrome on Monday, but by an unfortunate oversight had neglected to provide herself with the permit necessary under the Lord Chamberlain's licence. That fact coming to the knowledge of the management, Miss Blanchard was informed that the sketch would not be allowed to be played after Monday unless the licence was procured. Determined to get over the difficulty Miss Blanchard on the following afternoon (Tuesday) went to the Lord Chamberlain's office, where she submitted her sketch, and stated the position in which she was placed. She was treated with the greatest courtesy, and within three hours was in possession of the required permit, which is addressed to the manager of the Balham Hippodrome, and reads as follows:—"A copy of the sketch in one act, entitled 'The Future Mrs. Ward,' has been read and passed. A licence will be forwarded in due course. Meanwhile the piece may be produced.—Douglas Dawson, Comptroller."

With that document Miss Blanchard proceeded to Balham on Tuesday with her company ready to play, but was not allowed to go on, the management having engaged another sketch in its stead. Miss Blanchard is greatly to be sympathised with, as we understand the [illegible]ich is of a humorous character, w[illegible]ted success.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

HARBINGERS OF SPRING.

When dull winter days make one sometimes tired of existence almost, the return visits of our migratory birds are anxiously looked forward to, because they are the real harbingers of spring, and we know what the song says—"In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love." But spring has other attractions for most of us, whether young or old, besides the ascription of the poet to the bull's-eyes made by Cupid's arrows. It is the season that witnesseth the return to the variety stage of the "star" warblers who have been entertaining the public in panto. throughout the three countries, and whose captivating figures and voices—ay, and feet—we in the metropolis have been sighing after for many weary weeks. Now they are nearly all back with us once more, and all goes as merry as a marriage bell.

From all accounts to hand it would appear that "When I lost you" is going to be the hit of the season. Hits are what artistes should be on the look-out for, and hence it is their bounden duty to at once consult the musical oracle in Arthur-street, and endeavour to obtain from that kindly-disposed magnate the necessary permission to make this ballad one of the chief items in their programme. "Hurry up, therefore," is our advice to all professionals who want to make their fame and fortune, and that as speedily as possible.

Yet another enormous success from the Arthur-street firm has been added to London's greatest triumph, "Hullo, Rag-time!" at the Hippodrome. This all-Feldman production, which is drawing all London and his wife to the Cranbourn-street temple of varieties, will continue its triumphant career for many months to come, and with such additions as the new number, "When Uncle Joe played on his old banjo," inimitably sung by that incomparable comedian, Willie Solar, the run of the revue throughout the season is assured.

A glorious success is the result of Miss Lil Hawthorne's production at the Cork Palace, of the new ballad sensation, "When I lost you," which Miss Hawthorne heard in the United States; and immediately on her arrival in London last week she devoted her spare time at the Arthur-street rehearsal rooms rehearsing the number which she has now produced with such tremendous success. The people of Cork's sweet citie know a good thing when they get it, and Miss Hawthorne has to respond nightly to several recalls before the audience have got enough of "When I lost you."

A memorable evening marked the concluding performance of the panto. at the Britannia last Saturday, and a crowded house attested to the popularity of the principal boy, Miss Maude Mortimer, who was the recipient of many costly presentations and a stageful of bouquets. Throughout the run of her panto. engagement her selections were "Alexander's rag-time band," "Oh, you beautiful doll," "Who were you with last night?" "I want to be in Dixie," and "It's a long way to Tipperary."

Back from her pantomime triumph at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, Miss Irene Dillon has been very busy rehearsing new numbers at the Feldman musical treasure-house prior to her forthcoming tour of the halls. So pronounced has been Miss Dillon's success that she has not only been re-engaged for next Christmas, but has been made flattering and tempting offers for the West End, and as predicted in these columns, the day cannot be long delayed before the genius of this charming little wonder is heralded on all the hoardings of the West End. We extend our congratulations to Miss Dillon, and to Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. in having an artiste of her ability to feature their publications.

Miss Daisy James, who has been scoring such an enormous success at the Palladium, and at Hammersmith Palace, with Messrs. Feldman's great pantomime hit, "I want to be in Dixie," has in active rehearsal several new Feldman numbers, including the coming furore, "On the Mississippi," which Mr. Bert Feldman is tipping to all his friends as the greatest certainty his firm has ever issued.

Bert Errol, who is featuring Feldman's songs, is the latest enthusiast of their new ballad, "When I lost you," and in connection with the rendition of which he expresses his confidence in making it the hit of his professional career. Mr. Errol is a capable artiste, who knows the value of a song to a nicety, and when he thus expresses himself in favour of the new Arthur-street gem—and we have strong corroborative approval from other artistes, in several parts of these islands—who can doubt that the Feldman stable again contains the winner of the big classic event of the season?

"The rag-time revue," which can boast of one of the largest and best appointed companies featuring rag-time songs, proved an immense success at the New Cross Empire last week, with a success which is being not alone maintained, but increased at the Birmingham Grand during the present week. This is the latest production to exploit Feldman's musical wares. Mr. Austen Hurgon, who has become famous as a producer, is responsible for the presentation of the "revue," and he has depended upon the Arthur-street output for the principal numbers, including "I want to be in Dixie," "The Gaby Glide," "You're my baby," "The rag-time soldier man," and "Everybody Two Steps now." We understand that the "revue" has a number of bookings ahead on the Moss' Empire tour, and it is such a highly successful production that a long run may safely be predicted for Mr. Hurgon's latest triumph.

The two sisters hailing from Australia—Misses Lorna and Toots Pounds—who have proved such capable and dainty artistes on the variety stage in their excellent presentations of mimicry, and who are now doing a tour of the Stoll halls, have seen the importance of adding a rag-time item to their repertoire, and at the Wood Green Empire this week they are convulsing large audiences with their presentation of "The Gaby Glide." This is another proof of the strong card in the Feldman pack which the "glide" indubitably is, for mimics only feature good-drawing, well-known, and popular items in their programmes. It is worth noting here that the Pounds mimics have quite a number of bookings for several years ahead.

The Feldman house is being inundated with orders for their famous ballads and syncopated ditties, there being a tremendous run on the following:—"On the Mississippi," "When the midnight choo choo leaves for Alabam," "My Persian rose," "Mother Machree," "In the garden of my heart," etc. All orders are filled at the earliest possible moment; there is no delay at the Arthur-street premises except what is unavoidable; but a good maxim in this matter, as in all business transactions, is for customers, whether professional or amateur, to send their orders along at once, and Messrs. Feldman will "deliver the goods" in record time.

An interesting production is now in full swing at the Oxford entitled "Ragmania." It is in the nature of a phantasy of syncopated melodies. Good music, unique staging and a most excellent company of "Ragmaniacs" assured the success of the venture from its inception a week or so ago. The vocal numbers introduced are all published by Messrs. Feldman and Co. Prominent among them are "King Chantecleer," "Everybody two-step," "The ghost of the violin," "Billy's melody," and a dainty ballad entitled "My Persian rose."

"The Three Rascals," whose act has been delighting frequenters of the Empire, Leicester-square, for some weeks past have added to their répertoire Messrs. Feldman's latest chef d'œuvre, "On the Mississippi," with significant results. They still continue to sing "The rag-time jockey" and "I want to be in Dixie" with enormous success.

That extremely popular measure, "The Insurance Act" has inspired that clever comedian Harry Marlow to indite a witty ditty under this title, which he has published with that well-known house, Messrs. Feldman and Co. This versatile artiste made a big hit with this clever number in pantomime at Brighton, and at subsequent engagements on the halls. At the Metropolitan this week his really meritorious demonstration of the "Act" meets with greater success than ever. Next week visitors at the Euston will have an opportunity of appreciating Harry Marlow's excellent song and singing.

The most recent visitor from the States to be welcomed over here is Miss Artie Hall, the famous rag-time singer from Georgia. She opened most successfully a week or two ago at the New Cross Empire with "I want to be in Dixie" and "When the midnight choo choo leaves for Alabam," both of which fine numbers emanate from the house of Feldman. At the Birmingham Empire this week Miss Hall is duplicating her success with interest.

Excitement reigns supreme at Preston this week, where the inhabitants are falling over each other in their eagerness to hear the Great American Rag-time Octette at the New King's Palace. The octette are featuring mainly Feldman numbers, prominent among which are "The ghost of the violin," "The rag-time jockey," "Everybody's doing it," and "When the midnight choo choo leaves for Alabam."

The genial Jen Latona is this week at Rochdale radiating wit and humour to the delight of her crowded audiences. She continues to sing with unabated success Messrs. Feldman's "I want to be in Dixie," "Rum-tum-tiddle," and "Blow'd if the fellows can do without girls."

Much of the great popularity of "That mysterious rag" is due to the consistent work of May Erne and Ernie Chester with this fine number. At the Holborn Empire this week they are bringing the house down with their meritorious and artistic act.

Miss Ruby Roya opens at the Queen's, Poplar, next week with two of Messrs. Feldman's latest successes. "Everybody two-step" and "On the Mississippi."

Typical of the memorable pantomime season just closing is the communication of Miss Rita Moya, the successful principal girl of the "Aladdin" production this week at the Theatre Royal, Cardiff. Miss Moya writes: "'Aladdin' is still going strong, this being the eleventh week of our tour, with more to follow. I am singing 'I want to be in Dixie' and 'That mysterious rag' with really extraordinary success. Other of your numbers in the show going equally well are 'Take me back to the garden of love,' 'Alexander's rag-time band,' and 'The rag-time violin.' You certainly have the goods."

Miss Nellie Merton and George Rydon are finishing a most successful pantomime engagement at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, where they have been featuring Messrs. Feldman's successes of the season. After a week at Bedminster this excellent duo sail for South Africa with a répertoire of new Feldman numbers.

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MR. HATTON WHARTON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I notice a paragraph in the "Wednesday Era" of yesterday's date referring to one of my assistants in the booking department—*i.e.*, Mr. Hatton Wharton, who, owing to some change having been made in his remuneration, is leaving us. Well, I think it only fair to the other members of the Booking Committee, the booking managers, who have preceded me, and myself, to state that the only managers of this department who are and have been responsible for the bookings up to the time they are submitted to our managing-director for confirmation since it was first inaugurated have been Mr. Alan Young, Mr. Llewellyn Johns, and yours truly,

ERNEST WIGHTON,
Chairman of the Booking Committee,
Moss' Empires, Ltd.

Moss' Empires, Ltd., London Office,
Cranbourn-mansions, W.C.
Feb. 27.

"LEFT LUGGAGE."

A Farce, by Harry Lowther, produced at the Bedford, on Monday, Feb. 24.

Herbert ..... Mr. Harry Lowther
Mrs. Lestrange ..... Miss Hulo Hodgson
Gertrude ..... Miss Vera Leslie

This little farce is of the slightest texture, in fact, there is hardly a plot at all, but that in no way detracts from it as a laughter maker. The scene is in the left luggage office, where Herbert presides over the counter, whither Gertrude, his fiancée, has come to deposit a basket given to her by a rich relative with a Christmas gift in. Mrs. Lestrange comes in with her baby, and while Herbert is away opens the basket, extracts a goose from it, and places the baby in it. Gertrude returns for her basket, and on opening it there is a scene, but the mother returns for the child, and saves the situation. Herbert shows his sympathy for her by giving her a goose, and when she has gone finds a letter to say the rich relation had put a £500 note in it. There is great trouble, of course, but luckily they find they have another goose which was in the office, and they find the £500 safely. Mr. Harry Lowther is a host in himself as Herbert, and has many amusing gags. He works hard throughout, being ably assisted by Miss Vera Leslie and Miss Hulo Hodgson. The two had a very hearty call at the fall of the curtain on Monday.

Another case has been brought to our notice of a manager engaging an artiste to perform in a music hall sketch for 30s. a week, a clause in her contract being "two halls a night in London and one in the provinces, matinées as the management require without extra payment." Out of this princely salary she had to pay 10 per cent. commission to an agent, also give a fortnight's rehearsals for nothing.

This is bad enough, but worse is to fo[llow]. The lady was taken ill after the S[at.] matinée, and was unable to attend the [2], and performance. When she arrived at [the] on the Monday night she was han[ded] ance card, unstamped, and her [sa]portionate amount for the p[er]ons, [sh]was also informed that a m[is]s in her place. Thirty shi[lli]s less 3s. commission—22s. or 7s. 7d. per week.

"BUNGLE'S LUCK."

A Comic Sketch, Produced for the First Time on any stage at the Bedminster Hippodrome, Bristol, on Monday, Feb. 24, 1913, Written by Charles Baldwin, E. C. Matthews, and Fred Kitchen, Music and Lyrics by Dudley Powell, Scenery by R. C. McCleery, Drury Lane Theatre, Costumes by Swan and Edgar, Regent-street, London, and Tom Parry and Son, Orchestra under the direction of Mr. Dudley Powell.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This comic production produced by Fred Kitchen is worked out in three scenes, which are all sufficiently realistic and appropriate. Scene I. represents a charity bazaar at Malton Towers, the country seat of the Duke of Malton, and we gather that a certain noble lord has to get married on the following day, or, in default, to lose a considerable portion of his millions. A somewhat common person by the name of Bungle has been sent to penal servitude for forging the noble lord's name to a cheque, but it ultimately transpires that he was not the guilty party. The noble lord announces his intention of disguising himself, and the first lady who recognises him he will marry.

Bungle escapes from Portland, and is mistaken for the noble lord by the Duke and Duchess of Malton. Bungle is so perplexed at the fuss being made of him in his convict's dress that he comes to the conclusion that he is in a lunatic asylum.

Scene II. represents the exterior of the Duke of Malton's mansion in Park-lane, in which Bungle is a guest, he being still mistaken for the noble lord, who has been arrested and taken to Portland. The daughter of the house falls in love with Bungle, though she had previously been only anxious to marry him for his supposed millions. Scene III. is the interior of the Duke's residence in Park-lane, and preparations are being made for the wedding. Bungle tries to convince the Duchess of Malton and her daughter that he is actually an escaped convict, but they think he is joking, and that he is really the noble lord. After lots of complications the police enter and arrest Bungle, but the Duke's daughter says she will marry him when he has served the remainder of his sentence. The noble lord now comes upon the scene, having proved his identity to the police authorities; he brings a pardon for Bungle; a military officer who really committed the forgery is arrested; Bungle marries the Duke of Malton's daughter, and all ends happily.

Mr. Fred Kitchen acts cleverly as Bungle, and is really amusing. He has excellent support from a large and competent company, which includes the names of the Misses Kate Forster, Belle St. Clement, D. Hermance, Madge Tours, Peggy Carthwright, Fortuna Morelle, E. Barr, Kitty Carlisle, Aggie Morris, Messrs. Charles Baldwin, Elmore Frith, J. E. Coyle, Harry Lappo, H. Piddock, Philip Sinclair, John Osborne, Gerald Smith, and Victor Stevens. There is a full and competent chorus. The sketch goes very smartly from beginning to end, and it is remarkably well dressed, with elegant and fashionable modern attire for both ladies and gentlemen.

"THE VIRTUES O' MRS. McTODD."

A Comedy, in One Act, by Ian Richardson, Produced at the Camberwell Empire, on Monday, Feb. 24.

Mrs. McTodd ..... Miss Eva McRoberts
Jack Joseph ..... Mr. Phil Hartley
Joseph Jacks .....Mr. Almyr Vane
Detritus Quickly ..... Mr. William Dunlop
"Erchie" ..... Mr. Arthur Boxall
Ginglin' Geordie ..... Mr. George Tawde

This interesting and effective little comedy, produced at the Camberwell Empire on Monday, is from the pen of Mr. Ian Richardson. The story is an incident in the life of Ginglin' Geordie, a Scottish vaudeville star artiste. In his earlier days he has been a grocer, and Mrs. McTodd, a typical and extremely clever Scotch housekeeper, was his landlady. She has stuck to him right through, and now that he has attained fame she remains with him and helps him when she can. She is given an opportunity to offer assistance sooner than she thinks, for she is the means of saving Geordie from the clutches of a cunning solicitor, Detritus Quickly, who has induced him to sign a contract by which he assigns his futures to a bogus syndicate. When the solicitor enters with the contract in his pocket, with the aid of the agents Josephs and Jacks, Erchie, the page boy, and even Geordie himself, she cleverly manœuvres affairs and gains possession of the document without the slightest suspicion falling on her. The characters in the playlet are all different types, even to the dialect, and the story is cleverly constructed, making the whole performance strikingly interesting and wonderfully realistic. No praise is too great to bestow upon Miss Eva McRoberts as the shrewd housekeeper, Mrs. McTodd. She enacts the part to the life, and is warmly applauded. Mr. George Tawde, so well remembered in "Bunty" at the Haymarket, is deserving of special mention. As Ginglin' Geordie he has a character after his own heart, and his acting is particularly good, his embodiment of the rôle being a conspicuous success. The other characters, Jack Josephs, Joseph Jacks, Detritus Quickly, and Erchie, are well represented by Messrs. Phil Hartley, Almyr Vane, William Dunlop, and Arthur Boxall respectively.

THE THREE TALENTS AT HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

That clever trio of children styling themselves "The Three Talents" are paying this week their second visit to Hammersmith Palace in six weeks, in a revised edition of "After the Ball," already noticed in our columns, and that such an early return visit was welcomed by the large audience was evidenced by the continuous applause which greeted their reappearance on Monday evening, proving that they have established themselves firm favourites at this popular hall. "After the Ball" as the means of introducing the trio in a musical and dancing mélange must be adjudged a great success. We have already expressed our appreciation of the terpsichorean efforts of Miss Vera Sylvia, and her dancing on Monday evening strengthened first impressions. Her future should be assured. Miss Gertie Rubenstein cleverly presides at the piano. In addition to the concerted numbers, she gave a well executed solo on Monday evening—a variation of "Alice, where art thou?"—in which she displayed a sympathetic touch and an extraordinary knowledge of technique for one so young. Master Leonard Rubenstein, who looks picturesque in his Mephistophelian dress, renders his violin solos with rare feeling and delicacy. The production is exceptionally well dressed.

Abomah, the great African giantess, after a most successful American tour, has returned to England this week, and will make her first appearance on Monday next at the Palace, Chatham. Visela and Rose, two young ladies, show considerable versatility. Opening with a duet on the subject of "Carmen," one of them suddenly doffs her coat, and, appearing in dancing dress, executes a pas seul to the tune of the Toreador song. The latter then announces that she will render a well-celebrated air with variations, and proceeds to display a wonderful compass. We doubt if any other vocalist in the profession has ever chosen this difficult piece of music to teach to all his pupils, including the celebrated Mme. Titiens, but Miss Rose get to grips with it, and sings it well.

"THE GREAT NAME."

A Cowboy Drama, Produced as a Sketch for the First Time on Monday, Feb. 24, at the Grand Theatre of Varieties, Gravesend.

Paul Terhune ..... Mr. Ernest Wingfield
John Murray ..... Mr. Jack Green
Kelly ..... Mr. J. S. Turner
Jose ..... Mr. Arthur Charrington
Friscoe Joe ..... Mr. Charles Tindall
Lung Hi ..... Mr. Willie Conn
Wang Foo ..... Mr. Phil Maie
Manuel ..... Mr. Val Savigear
Texas Bill ..... Mr. Syd Carlton
Yank Hooker ..... Mr. Jack Burns
Jess Kelly ..... Miss Kathleen Wynn

The new manager of the Grand Theatre, Gravesend, Mr. Charles G. Rembges, is to be congratulated on the production, by Mr. Jack Green, at this theatre, on Monday, of a new and sensational cowboy drama, entitled "The Great Name." The scene is laid in a saloon on the Barbary Coast of San Francisco, where the cowboys are all assembled, playing cards and singing, when the curtain rises. Hanging on the wall of the saloon is a proclamation offering the reward of 15,000 dollars for the capture of one "Billy the Red," the famous outlaw. Not one of the crowd thinks for a moment that "Billy," on account of his supreme daring and wonderful skill as a shot, will ever be taken. Presently, however, John Murray, a police officer in disguise, enters the saloon and asks for some refreshment. As he wishes to sleep there for the night, he is shown his room. The boys soon discuss the stranger, and recognise the police officer. They quickly plot to "do him in," but one of the outlaws, Paul Terhune, not wishing to be a party to the murder of a policeman, leaves the saloon. Soon the police officer returns from his room, when the attempt is made upon his life by the boys. This attempt is only stopped by the gallantry of Paul Terhune, who, watching events in the saloon from outside, appears at the window in the semi-darkness, and, giving himself out as, or rather assuming the great name of, the outlaw, "Billy the Red," covers all the boys with his pistol, and requests them to leave the police officer to him. "One man to one man, not ten men to one man." Paul Terhune then enters the saloon, and the young police officer recognises him, shakes him cordially by the hand, and thanks him for saving his life.

Paul Terhune was capitally portrayed by Mr. Ernest Wingfield; John Murray, the police officer, was well enacted by Mr. Jack Green; Kelly, the proprietor of the saloon, was in the capable hands of Mr. J. S. Turner, and Jess Kelly was well taken by Miss Kathleen Wynn. The sketch is written by Norman Lee, and the excellent scenery designed by Mr. F. Bull.

EIGHT RAG-TIME SISTERS AT COLLINS'S.

We may eventually tire of rag-time, but it will be long ere the sun of its popularity sets whilst it is presented in such piquant fashion by the Rag-time Sisters, a bevy of charming girls exquisitely gowned. From the moment of their entry there is not a dull moment, and they accomplish the difficult task of introducing real novelty into their act. The rag-time lullaby, sung by one of the company daintily poised upon the grand piano, is dainty in the extreme. But their show does not merely consist of singing, for one of the company essays successfully the difficult feat of doing a Russian dance to rag-time music. Another feature is a cowboy and Indian maiden dance, performed to an ear-haunting refrain. The lady at the piano has an exceptionally good voice, and is such a finished artiste that we regret that the programme did not give us her name. She surely reached the limit in eccentric syncopation in her rendering of "Goodbye, summer," in rag-time. Altogether a splendid act that should go far.

"ON THE PIER," AT THE PAVILION.

"On the Pier," the act in which Mr. Leslie Stiles appears at the London Pavilion this week, is described as a musical comedy, but to many minds its pretensions in that direction are not great. It would appear that the atmosphere of the seaside pier is merely introduced to provide Mr. Stiles with an opportunity of singing, in his own inimitable manner, several catchy ditties concerning the seaside, the pleasant people one meets there, and the other attractions of Anywhere-on-Sea. Mr. Stiles was evidently well aware, too, that such a setting would serve better than most others for the purposes of introducing the really charming choristers that form not the least attractive feature of his production.

If we are really asked to accept "On the Pier" as a musical comedy, then to say that the music totally eclipses the comedy is only fair criticism. The comedy is by no means strong, and the plot, even for a musical comedy, is less so. The latter deals with a young lady's infatuation for the hero of the "Chocolate Soldier," and of course it is not until the end of the sketch that she recognises Mr. Stiles as her footlight favourite. The young lady is exceedingly well played by Miss Kathleen Courtney, and her duets with Mr. Stiles are an enjoyable feature of the entertainment. Their waltz song—without which no production of this character seems complete—is probably the best in the piece, and it serves to bring down the curtain to the accompaniment of highly appreciative applause.

AGED EX-MANAGER'S DEATH.

At St. Pancras Coroner's Court on Monday an inquest was held relative to the death of Chas. Dudley Stewart, whose professional name was Chas. Dudley, and who was formerly manager of several provincial music halls, and was at one time proprietor of Sadler's Wells Theatre. Deceased, who was about 72 years of age, had for some years resided at Albert-street, St. Pancras.

Robert Price, a brother-in-law of the deceased, gave evidence of identification, and said he had seen deceased occasionally, and as recently as Feb. 17. Deceased was a man of sober and careful habits.

Mrs. Goodchild, with whom deceased lodged, said that deceased had gone out as usual on the Wednesday afternoon, but she had not noticed his return. It was his custom to place a teapot outside his bedroom door so that he could have a cup of tea before coming downstairs in the morning, and on Thursday morning the teapot was not in its usual place. Knocks on his door failed to bring any response, and later the door was burst open by a policeman, and deceased was found lying on the bed in a natural position, partly dressed and apparently dead.

The medical evidence showed that deceased was poorly nourished. He had suffered from an aneurism in the aorta, and this had been ruptured, bringing on heart failure and death. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

At the termination of the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, pantomime, an amusing diversion was created by the presentation of a huge sugar-coated cake, as big as a footstool, to Kelly, the entertaining little comic page, sent by some of the sporting fraternity. Envious eyes were cast upon it by the ballet and chorus, and there was great jubilation when Barney Armstrong handed it to the property master to be cut up for the girls. Inscribed on the cake were the words: "Kelly takes the cake."

"THE SCRUB LADY."

Sketch, in One Act, by Sewell Collins, Produced at the Hippodrome, Manchester, on Monday, Feb. 24.

Mr. Heilbecker ..... Mr. George Stephenson
Mr. Smith ..... Mr. Alfred Field Fisher
Mr. Forbes ..... Mr. Victor Kerr
Mr. Adams ..... Mr. Patrick S. Murray
Charwoman ..... Herself
Miss Moffat ..... Herself

"The Scrub Lady" is described as the latest vaudeville novelty, and the description is so well applied that for some little time the audience at the Manchester Hippodrome on Monday scarcely realised what was happening. It is a sketch which reproduces all the circumstantial details of the rehearsal of a sketch. On the stage the "scrub lady" is unobtrusively yet pertinently busy in cleaning the boards. Two actors, Smith and Forbes, are employed in the exploitation of a dramatic incident which requires the presence of the leading lady, who by some unforeseen accident is delayed from appearing on the scene; and among the audience, on one side of the house, is Mr. Heilbecker, a music hall magnate, and on the other side is Mr. Adams, the author of the piece. The purport of the supposed production is to portray the misfortunes of the family of Smith, mother and son, who are reduced to the last resort of realising money on their sole remaining effect, a clock, in order to satisfy the demand of Forbes for overdue rent. There is also, however, the chance of something accruing from a lottery ticket, which turns out to be a winning one, but which is placed in jeopardy, apparently, by an attempt to pawn the clock, in which the ticket has been placed for safety. These features are, however, merely a peg upon which to hang the material action of the piece, the humour and novelty of which are supplied by the free interruptions of the rehearsal by the music hall magnate, who is willing to book the sketch if some life can be got into it, and who bullies the author and the actors in turn, the latter showing the artificiality of their business by the ludicrous way in which they are called upon to create and sustain certain dramatic poses and effects.

It is upon the leading lady, nevertheless, that the success of the playlet must depend; and there is no lady present but the scrub lady, who perforce is called upon, for a reward of half-a-sovereign, to read the part, so that the action can proceed. The charwoman is not exactly the figure for the sketch, yet she is the natural thing, and her reading so impresses the music hall magnate that he offers her the part, at a salary increasing from two pounds to eight pounds, but without success. Going off in repudiation of the offer, her next appearance takes place at the critical moment when Smith and Forbes, the actors, are posed in a struggle, which it is her business to avert. But she is now by no means the natural thing; she is, in fact, the leading lady herself, looking far younger than the son whose mother she is supposed to be; but it is soon made evident to the exacting Mr. Heilbecker that it was she in the guise of the scrub-lady who made the impression on him that is to make the sketch a success, and so the rehearsal comes to a satisfactory end.

Miss Margaret Moffat showed extraordinary cleverness of characterisation, and a marked gift of comedy, in her embodiment of the scrub-lady; and as Mr. Smith, the actor, the "son" in the supposed story, Mr. Alfred Field Fisher contributed a most amusing burlesque performance, which was ably supported by the Mr. Forbes of Mr. Victor Kerr. Mr. George Stephenson as Mr. Heilbecker and Mr. Patrick S. Murray as Mr. Adams, the author, both sustained the argument with vigour and effect, and the piece as a whole succeeded in producing a novel and satisfactory impression.

'SPURS v. MUSIC HALL ARTISTES.

FOOTBALL FOR CHARITY.

The match 'Spurs v. Music Hall Artistes, which will be held at the 'Spurs Ground, White Hart-lane, on Thursday, March 6, is evoking a widespread interest in football and variety circles. The artistes' team will be captained by George Robey, and will include the brothers Sam Mayo and Ted Cowan, both of them athletes with victories on the cycle track and cinder track, Joe Archer, Jack Connor (of Jack and Evelyn), Alf Brooks, Brothers Raymond, Mark Leslie, Kisbey, and Frank Clifford. Miss Marie Lloyd will kick off at 2.45, and the match will be refereed by Vivian Woodward, while two well-known sportsmen will act as linesmen. The serious match will be followed by a comic costume "footer" scramble, in which a large number of leading variety artistes will take part.

How the match originated may be of interest to our readers. Sam Mayo and the 'Spurs popular outside left, Middlemiss, were chaffing each other on their respective "performances" after a football match. Banter ran high between them, each maintaining that the other's job was "money for nothing." "Ever tried singing a song in public?" said Sam. "Easy," said the 'Spurs man; "have you ever tried to play football?" "Tried!" retorted Mayo, "I *can* play, and can give you a run for your money." That settled it!

Mr. Harry Bawn and Mr. Alf Davies, of the "Encore," were among the company, noting the little scene with interest, and the idea occurred to them to suggest a match between the 'Spurs and a team of the leading variety artistes, and this was quickly arranged by the kind permission of the London Football Association and the Hotspur directors. The proceeds of the day will be allocated to the funds of the Prince of Wales's (Tottenham) Hospital and the Music Hall Home.

The Palladium Minstrels, who appeared at the Liverpool Olympia on Monday for a week, have caused a great sensation. The vast place will hold over 4,000 people, but, despite the fact of three shows being given daily, thousands are being turned away. On Monday evening the Lord Mayor of Liverpool went on the stage and made a speech—a most astonishing and unusual event.

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THE PALACE.

There were some famous "duos" in last century's annals of the halls and theatres, but none is more likely to become historic than the association of George Grossmith and Edmund Payne, who came to the Palace Theatre on Monday night and amused Mr. Alfred Butt's patrons vastly. The happy pair were exceedingly funny in "The Two Obadiahs," brought up to date with verses on Lloyd George, John Redmond, the disappearing vicar, and a well-turned quip on "putting" votes for women on the links. There were encore verses as a matter of course, and these are bound to increase. "Who's boss of the show?" originally a Gaiety quartet, has been reduced to a trio, but the political caricatures of a famous leader of the Opposition and an insuring but not reassuring Chancellor remain. The question is decided by the appearance of Miss Mabel Sealby as a Suffragette, who sets all doubts completely at rest. The contrast in styles between Gee Gee and Teddy makes for delicious fun. Miss Sealby's gifts as a comedian have a greater chance in "Nuts," and her comedy is delightful. Mr. Payne, too, is particularly unctuous. His "waiter" interlude, however, is not uproariously funny—not so funny as Mr. Grossmith's "Overdoing It," a well-timed protest against rag-time. The Palace Girls add much to the success of the finale of "Who's Boss of the Show?" by joining the revels of Messrs. Grossmith and Payne in their burlesque of the prime donne of ballet.

Mr. Alfred Butt's importations from America include a team of cultured coloured people known as the Royal Poinciana Quintette, and those artistes of the negro race made a highly favourable impression at the Palace on Monday. An excellent ensemble, a most sympathetic and accomplished accompanist at the piano, an artistically draped setting for the act, and a charming tenor are the chief attributes of the turn. There is the distinctive quality of humour in Mr. C. B. Foster, the *basso profondo* of the five, whose interpolated remarks during the selection "Row, row, row" provoked mirth. Mr. Foster was responsible for the number "Woodman, spare that tree," to which Henry Russell wrote music many years ago, and, though his compass is limited, he has a wonderful low note. Mr. H. Sutton, the tenor, sang with considerable charm "Dearest memories." A rag-time finale, "Red rose rag," has much spirit and liveliness. The crowd immediately made good on Monday.

Frank Tinney has become an institution at the Palace, and the dialogues between the black-faced American comedian and his friend Ernest in the orchestra are not salted with smart sayings such as one generally hears from the witty monologuists of the States; but how everyone laughs at the burnt-corker in the knickerbockers and military coat without knowing exactly why. Mr. Tinney expressed the hope on Monday night that everyone would just love him and Ernest, and got a roar of laughter when he spoke of his partner, Mr. Butt. A turn not announced in the current programme is that of Reynolds and Donegan, those delightful roller-skate dancers, who have yet to find their equals. Lynch and Zeller, club jugglers, who make their first appearance in England, are as smart at their business as it is possible to be. They talk to each other a good deal—a rare thing with this sort of act, but quite an acceptable innovation. Miss Nora Delany, the favourite of the Kennington pantomime, sings brightly and attractively, and her rag-time soldier song gets there every time. She makes a handsome figure in hussar uniform. La Belle Linda, a pretty young trick cyclist, belongs to a well-known professional family, her work being very smart indeed; the engagement of Miss Violet Essex, a very charming and cultured singer, has been extended; Siems' card tricks are much enjoyed; Les Floridos realise the *bric* of the dancers of Catalonia; and "The Dresden Fantasy" and Barclay Gammon are immensely popular. Mr. Herman Finck's orchestral pot-pourri, "Vive la Danse," is admirably arranged and quite as admirably played.

PRESENTATION TO CHARLES DRAYCOTT.

Last week marked the first anniversary of Mr. Charles Draycott's lesseeship of the Batley Hippodrome. A special performance was given at the second house on Wednesday evening, which was attended by the Mayor (Ald. Ward) and the Town Clerk (Mr. J. H. Craik), the local Boy Scouts under the Rev. F. W. Butt-Thompson, the Batley Old Band, and representatives of various institutions who have benefited by Mr. Draycott's generosity during the past twelve months. An interesting presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. Draycott by the Mayor, who was accompanied on the stage by the Rev. F. W. Butt-Thompson, the Scouts, and the Batley Old Band.

Mr. Thompson, in introducing the Mayor, spoke in eulogistic terms of Mr. Draycott's generosity, stating that possibly every charity in the town had benefited by it. The Mayor then handed to Mr. Draycott a fifteen-carat gold Albert and Masonic charm, also a gold returns thanks badge from the Boy Scouts. His Worship briefly outlined the different charities, &c., which had received benefits, and incidentally remarked that Mr. Draycott's first anniversary was a most opportune time for the Batley public to show their appreciation of his good work.

Mr. Draycott briefly responded. He said he was deeply impressed by the many expressions of goodwill, and was proud to think he had made so many friends during his short residence in Batley. He was always pleased to do whatever he could for the cause of charity, and thanked all for the beautiful present. It should be mentioned that Mrs. Draycott was also presented with a gold chain and pendant set with turquoises by the Hippodrome staff and "The Great White Chief" company.

At the head of a long list of well known artistes at the Victoria Palace next week is Charlotte Parry, who will appear here for the first time in her extraordinary protean study, "Into the Light." Others in an admirable bill are Lily Lena, Yorke and Adams, Billy Williams, John Tiller's Eight Roses, in dances and a shadow pantomime; Jimmy Godden, the Viennese Trio of mirthful melodists, Marriott Edgar, Cruikshank ("the fool of the family"), and the Westwoods.

ALARMING DELUGE AT THE LEICESTER PALACE.

At the second house at the Leicester Palace Theatre on Saturday evening a most unexpected incident happened, which, happily, was unattended with personal injury, with the exception of a severe wetting to the gentlemen of the orchestra and a few of the patrons in the front row of the fauteuils.

It appears that during the turn of Fred Durant and Brother in their amusing sketch, "Everything," suddenly the "back cloth" was noticed to bulge forward, and a great rush of water poured across the stage and into the orchestra. With a fertility of resource always to be found in members of the profession, Mr. Durant at once told the patrons (who packed every part of the building) to "Sit down and take no notice, but watch this little trick I am going to do," which calmed the excitement of the audience. The rush of water, consisting of many tons, swept the carpets and other stage effects into the orchestra, carried away the wires in front of the stage, and also the footlights, and so damaged La Pia's appliances that the electric part of her dances had to be omitted.

It appears that about a fortnight ago preparations were commenced for the presentation this week of Mr. Hengler's great water spectacle "Mexico," which was played here some time ago for a fortnight without any mishap. For the effective working of the spectacle two large tanks were placed upon a platform some 20ft. above the stage level. They were placed in exactly the same position as on the previous occasion, and were supported in just the same manner. We should mention that when full the tanks each hold about 2,500 gallons of water. On Saturday the tanks were only half full, but for some unaccountable reason the platform collapsed, the supports gave way, and the tanks tilted forward, causing the rush of water over the stage and into the orchestra. It is providential that no one happened to be beneath at the time, or serious consequences would have occurred.

The curtain was lowered, and Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds, the acting-manager, who is nothing if not tactful and resourceful, made a short reassuring speech, asking for the indulgence of the audience while preparations were made for the continuance of the performance, which was rapidly carried out, the time occupied being about fifteen minutes.

The gentlemen of the orchestra, who, as we have stated, received a severe drenching, were at once liberated from their duties for the rest of the evening, and Mr. John W. Lowe, the musical-director of the Palace, was installed, enveloped in his topcoat, on the stage with a piano, and so completed the rest of the performance. The behaviour of the audience was excellent during this contretemps, which, of course, caused a great deal of excitement, and withal some amusement.

When the performance had terminated, a large staff of men were put on, and in about three and a half hours the stage was cleared of the débris. Fortunately, the management had in hand a large tank used in "The Smugglers," and this relieved their anxiety to a great extent, as at first there was a doubt as to whether it would be possible to stage "Mexico" on Monday evening. However, by dint of hard work and perseverance, the fresh tank, which holds over 3,000 gallons of water, was got into position, and by Monday afternoon all was in readiness for the evening performance, and "Mexico" was duly presented as if nothing whatever had happened. The instruments of various members of the orchestra were somewhat damaged, but the gentlemen composing the excellent band were all in their places with smiling faces on Monday evening, and the entire "show" was got through without any further mishap.

THE OLD-TIME MUSIC HALL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I was very interested when I read one or two letters in your paper about the old-time music halls and their performers. The surviving artistes, I grieve to say, are now very few. I am one of them, having, in conjunction with my late brother, and also single-handed, performed in all the old-time music halls as Ethiopian entertainers. I claim to be the first to introduce the one-string, so-called the Japanese, fiddle; also the pine sticks (xylophone), and solos on the banjo to a full orchestral accompaniment, at the old Cambridge Music Hall, when the late Mr. Nugent was proprietor, also the old Canterbury, when Mr. Johnson was proprietor, and Mr. William Bailey was manager.

I would like to suggest to your large circle of readers that an entertainment be given, we'll say, for some charity, with as many old-time performers as can be got together to show the present generation what they could do in the good old times. I venture to say that such an entertainment would be a great draw. I should be pleased to give my services, as I often play for charity, though I have retired from the stage some years now. I still remember the good old days, when I gave lessons in dancing to such artistes as Fred Albert and Walter Laburnum, and many others, not forgetting Billy Bint and Joe Elvin.

Hoping you will find space to insert this in your paper.—Yours truly,

JULIUS KEELING.

The Elms, 15, St. John's-road,
Brixton, S.W., Feb. 24.

[Mr. Keeling's idea is certainly worth consideration, and we commend it to the committee of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund.—Ed., "The Era."]

"MILLIE'S LITTLE DECEPTION."

Domestic Farcette, Produced at the Camberwell Empire on Monday, Feb. 24.

Millie Newby ..... Miss Maud Davies
Dick Newby ..... Mr. D. Jephson
Mrs. Williams ..... Miss Sylvia St. Quentin
Uncle Timothy Talbot .. Mr. Gus Wheatman

Several amusing situations are to be found in the above playlet. Uncle Timothy Talbot is about to visit his nephew and niece, who about twelve months before have been united by the bonds of matrimony. It is the uncle's wish that the first child of the marriage shall be a boy, and as he has been told he is to expect to see one when he calls it naturally makes it rather awkward for the couple, who are without children. As they are expecting a share of the uncle's property at his death they do not wish to displease him, and accordingly borrow a child from a neighbour. This they palm off on their relative as their own son, but as the child happens to be a girl much amusement results. However, the uncle readily forgives the pair for the deception, owing to the fact that a little earlier the nephew has unknowingly been of some considerable service to him. As Millie Newby, Miss Maud Davies is decidedly good, and Mr. D. Jephson enacts the rôle of Dick Newby with vigour, making a great success of the part. As Uncle Timothy Talbot Mr. Gus Wheatman also scored heavily. The piece has been written and is being presented by Messrs. T. Benson and Fuller Stein.

The management of the Kursaal, Littlehampton, were successful in obtaining their various licences last week from the local magistrates.

Bosanquet, the wonderful instrumentalist and musical imitator, has been a brilliant success at Buxton Hippodrome during the past week. This clever artiste has had double encores nightly.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

SURREY THEATRE.

From a vast audience on Monday afternoon came the "voices of the people"—not the voices of the gods only, for men and women in pit and stalls equalled the occupants of the "top shelf" in their enthusiasm. There was no mistaking the general acceptance of a programme in which versatility and variety and humour were happily combined. Indeed, the fine house, so ably and skilfully engineered by Mr. S. Fortescue Harrison, the managing-director, has revivified its popularity, and the packed and serried ranks of supporters from footlights to roof reminded one of the palmiest days of Conquest pantomime in the old building, which stood on the historic site on which a palace of the people now lifts its head to the eternal summer of prosperity.

The bill has an enormous attraction in "Humanity," in which John Lawson once more plays the deceived husband, driven to dire revenge by the perfidy of a friend. No need for us to describe the desperate fight for life, in which the contents of a sumptuously furnished apartment are completely smashed. The struggle between the two men continues on the burning balcony and staircase; and the excitement is tremendous. The entire production of "Humanity"—in which, by the way, Mr. Lawson's interpretation of "Only a Jew" is as popular as ever—is under the direction of Mr. Charles Stafford. The comedienne of the bill is Miss Millie Doris, who is indexed on the programme as "the hot-cross bun girl." Millie is evidently going ahead, and her success with the Surreysiders is as conspicuous as it is deserved. She revels in oddity of make-up, in freak movements across the stage, and in peculiarities of voice production which keep her admirers in the grip of laughter. Her "Hot-cross bun" song is one of those frankly absurd things that make an obvious appeal to a working-class audience; and in "The rag-time skivvy" the comedienne's droll power of parody, her quaint make-up, and her complete sacrifice of appearance in that make-up are irresistible. She has all the ardour and unrestraint of youth, but knows how to "get there."

Dorsch and Russell have an original setting for their musical act, which is sufficiently indicated by their title, "The Musical Railroaders." They manipulate various bits of locomotive machinery, and one of them plays the cornet, which takes the shape of a danger signal lamp. A peal of musical bells is tunefully manipulated by "working the points" in a signal box, and the act is enhanced by the journey of a miniature train across the back of the stage. On Monday the turn had a big reception.

Something of a furore was created, too, by the Four Wards, simply described as singers and dancers. The dancing was top notch, and the little bits of harmony, with a clever buzzing bee obbligato, took the fancy of the house. The Kirbys, who are labelled comedy entertainers, take care that the "goods" are up to the description. The mere man of the twain is one of the funniest clown-comedians we have seen, and is cleverly supported by his partner in a go-as-you-please pantomimic burlesque show, played to a continuous accompaniment of laughter. The Brothers Hannaway have decided merits as cross-talkers. Occasionally the point of their jokes is slightly laboured, but a little experience will do much for what is already a good turn. Harry Champion, the quick-fire comedian, is at his best in a burlesque of rag-time. Little Ganty adds to his popularity by his amusing behaviour, and the Musical Keiths, novelty instrumentalists, and Nat Lewis, comedian, are heard to advantage. Mr. J. R. Badcoe, the courteous manager here, was called upon to apologise for the non-appearance on Monday afternoon of Darracq in "Whizzing the Wheel in a Motor-Car." Mr. Frank Hills ably conducts the orchestra of the famous across-the-bridge house.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.

The programme at the Kingston Empire this week is of exceptional interest, and has been drawing good houses during the week. Former patrons of the Royal County Theatre, the home of drama for thirteen years, but now no longer so, gave a particularly warm welcome to Mr. A. C. Lilly and his company in a stirring potted military drama entitled "The Gentleman Ranker," which provides an interesting story of the South African War, in which a young gentleman in disgrace at home finds the opportunity by conspicuous bravery of regaining his lost reputation. Mr. A. C. Lilly plays the part of Col. Fairly with success, and that of his erring son, known in the ranks as Private Barton, is played with conspicuous success by Mr. Charles King. Mr. Leo. Lilly makes a very good Lieut. Hanford, and a successful appearance as a hospital nurse is made by Miss Dora Alexander. Some welcome light comedy work is put in by Mr. B. Tapping and Mr. George Coburn as privates in the regiment. There are four scenes and a tableau in the little play, which was admirably presented.

An interesting feature of the bill is the performance of an ourang-outang under the management of its trainer, M. Francis. The animal goes by the name of Yacob, and it has been taught to do many things that border closely on the marvellous, having regard to the fact that it is only five years old and has been training only three months. Amongst other things that the animal does without a mistake and with little trouble on the part of its trainer, are the opening of a basket and taking out a bottle, the contents of which it drinks after drawing the cork; standing on its head, taking off its shoes and stockings, blowing a trumpet, going through a remarkable performance on a swinging trapeze, and finally riding a bicycle until it meets with a side-slip, and then appearing with crutches and bandages after the accident.

A pretty turn is given by Beth Tate, Californian vocalist, who sings "In the winter time," "That would never do for me," and "Innocent Bessie Brown," in a very pleasant voice, with a delicious American accent, and with inimitable accompaniments of gestures and expression. A big success is scored by Mr. Frank Dent, a young juggler of remarkable attainments. The ease with which Mr. Dent manipulates a number of top hats, a cigar, and a walking stick at the same time won for him much applause. Other items in the programme were provided by Tim O'Connor, comedian; Muriel Yorke, concert vocalist; the Four Rays, speciality dancers; Alf. Chester, comedian and vocalist; and the Donaldson Brothers in their sketch, "Sports in a Jungle," in which no end of fun and a number of very fine make-up as wild animals are introduced. The antics of a "horse" cause an immense amount of merriment.

BALHAM HIPPODROME.

A varied bill is in evidence here this week, one of the most popular items being Miss Kate Carney with a budget of new songs, the principal ones being "Liza, now you're a lady," "Drink up and have another one," and "We're all going home to the ladies," in the choruses of which Miss Carney is assisted by her company, who appear variously as clubmen returning from a midnight carouse, as burglars "on the job," as a smart squad of soldiers, and as a team of footballers. Miss Carney is also running a singing competition, which is productive of the usual comic results. Another pleasing turn is that of Mr. Herbert Shelley, who sings "You can't change the colour of the coat I wear" and "The son of a man like you," in which the successful actor-vocalist quite sustained his popularity. Jenny and Joe, two persevering juveniles, hustle merrily along and dance in a most finished fashion; whilst the Two Vestas are a couple of comediennes with bright and sprightly methods. "A soldier's song," as sung by that inimitable comedian, Harry Weldon, is "a scream" from start to finish, and the various quaint asides and actions that Mr. Weldon introduces into his business make the house for the time being a regular home of laughter. Miss Ella Shields, "fetching" as usual, sings her pretty numbers with delightful ingenuousness, and in "It's enough to make a fellow leave the force" the archness of her manner enhances the value of the ditty considerably.

Hodgson and Lowther feature an amusing comedy sketch, entitled "A Wise Father," which they play easily and effectively. Francis and Francisco, two humorous eccentrics, please everybody; and that marvellous magician, Prince Kuroki, sends the audience home fairly bewildered with his mystifying efforts, especially the hoop and thumb-screw trick, for the solution of which a prize of £50 is offered nightly. Mr. Charles A. Martin is the courteous resident-manager for Mr. Gulliver.

OLYMPIA, SHOREDITCH.

This amusing petite farce, written by Edmund Goulding, had a favourable reception on its appearance here on Monday. The plot was given on the production of the piece at the Holborn Empire last year.

The artistes all play their respective characters with ability. Mr. Walter Hanney was good as the sanctimonious Dr. Sprontley; Mr. Lionel Gadsden acquitted himself with distinction as Col. Bunworthy; Miss Wilma Leyman played the inquisitive busybody, Miss Nogis, most effectively; Mr. D. Webb was highly successful as James Seymour; and Miss B. Verrier created a good impression by her performance of Molly. Mr. Sang made an ideal waiter.

Mr. Lew Lake is also here with the latest addition to his repertoire, "The Rib-Nosed Baboon," which goes with a bang from start to finish. Those inseparable pals, Abe, Jerry and Nobbler, are much to the fore in the sketch, which is mounted and staged in a most elaborate manner, the scenic artist deserving the warm praise.

Miss Edie Veno scored an immediate and emphatic success in her amusing parody of rag-time in "Rag-time mad," which places her without doubt in the front rank of our low comediennes. Another artiste who is rapidly coming to the front is Miss Jennie Lynwood, who is adopting the rôle of male impersonator. Attired in a spick-and-span naval uniform, she renders "The nobby little man inside," but is seen and heard to better advantage in her second item, "Jean McClaren," in which she is garbed in the national costume of Scotland, and looks very dainty and charming. Agustin and Hartley are a duo of very agile barrel pumpers, and present some very difficult feats of jumping, which are carried out with considerable precision and neatness, the lady being specially noticeable for her dexterity and agility.

Bert Burnell and his crazy golfers created unbounded amusement for their mirth-provoking act on the golf links.

Barnard's Wooden Family are as popular as ever. The marionettes, most cleverly manipulated, are received with unbounded applause. Syd May, the popular mimic, presents some really life-like imitations of our leading artistes. Tom Leamore, a great favourite, scored with "Jane," followed by a dance.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

Everyone is satisfied with Mr. H. J. Tilley's productions for the week here. The bill is a tolerably good one, and boasts novelties worthy of support. Miss Eileen Rose, who hails from the other side, is successful as a bright comedienne, and the Soho Trio chant pleasingly and win applause. Teddy Denham adds to the honours of the evening, and Sam Stern is a cosmopolitan artiste who is tremendously successful, his ditty, "The unlucky boy," being quite of the best. Then there is Nellie Norway, who manipulates the handbells, and sets the whole house jogging to "The chocolate soldier," and Joe Elvin convulses everyone with his quaint and droll impersonation in "Obedient Billy." "Thou Shalt Not Steal" is a breezy dramatic sketch, and admirably interpreted by a capable company. The orchestra, under Mr. G. D Weatherstone, is capital.

EALING HIPPODROME.

Mr. Eustace Gray's Palladium Minstrels were accorded a very gratifying reception by a large and enthusiastic audience, when they opened their suburban tour at the Ealing Hippodrome on Monday last, and if we take the whole-hearted appreciation of the audience as a criterion, it is evident that Mr. Gray has struck the right note in providing minstrelsy for music hall patrons. The minstrels sang their opening chorus, and then Mr. Jimmy Tray gave a delightfully humorous effort, entitled "The girl next door but one," after which Mr. Ernest D'Almaine, a vocalist of no small merit, gained the plaudits of the audience for his song, "My old Kentucky home." The minstrels' banjo band then contributed an excellent number, "Darkie chuckle," the artistes being in excellent form, and the same quintette later on received a well-deserved encore for their well-rendered work. Mr. Johnny Danvers, the genial manager of the minstrels, brought the house down with his exceedingly funny song, "Father's boot," for which he was rapturously encored, after which Mr. Arthur Lawrence revealed the possession of a powerful bass voice, and was given a hearty ovation for his "Asleep in the deep." Everybody's doing it, and so we were not surprised to find rag-time included in the programme, Mr. C. Jerome making a big hit with "The thunder man," a song which has a catchy chorus. Mr. Alf. Wood kept the audience bubbling over with mirth during his comic song, "I don't care if you never come back," after which we were treated to a humorous piece of cross-talk between Mr. Arthur Lawrence (as the interlocutor) and Mr. Johnny Danvers, about "Smith's horse," which provoked great laughter. An item, entitled "By-bye land," was well rendered by Master Flowers, this being followed by the Palladium Minstrels' grand finale, entitled "Hitchy Koo," an exceptionally well-managed movement.

The second part of the programme opened with a banjo solo by Mr. Will Blanche, followed by a go-as-you-please pantomime burlesque show, entitled "Dr. Whackem's Academy," in which it is again proved that "a boy's best friend is his mother," and which was played to a continuous accompaniment of laughter. The echolars at Dr. Whackem's Academy appear to have a jolly good time, and the hilarious escapades and general contributions of music and mirth contained in this farcical mix-up combined to send the audience into convulsions of laughter. Mr. Johnny Danvers as Willie, "the boy who gets more whacks than ha'pence," is ludicrously funny, as is also his song, "Robin redbreast." A feature of this scene is the delightfully well-executed "musical drill," and the audience was not slow in showing its appreciation of this unique act.

The minstrels then presented a short protean act, entitled "Massa Jack's Homecoming." Massa Jack sets out to make a fortune in order to free all the land in his native village, and, incidentally, to provide a comfortable living for the whole village community. Of course, he succeeds, and everything ends happily. The following numbers are introduced into the act: "The Swanee River"; "When evening's twilight," by the minstrels' octette; "Tapioca," a humorous ditty by Johnny Danvers; and a duet by Messrs. Pierce and Ross, entitled "When I was twenty-one and you were sweet sixteen." The orchestra, ably conducted by Mr. Harry Stafford, contributed its quota to the success, the music being selected and arranged, as at the Palladium, by Mr. J. C. Moore.

COLLINS'S.

A strong bill is in evidence here this week, and Mr. J. T. Caddell, the genial manager, is doing record business, crowded houses twice nightly being the rule. Pride of place on the bill is occupied by the Ten Loonies, the famous mad musicians, who keep the audience in one continual roar of laughter by their eccentricities, and win great applause for their well-executed musical numbers. Will Ansta, the light comedian and dancer, got right home with his two songs, whilst Mr. Ernest H. Mills, the lightning art humorist (well known to Palace Theatre audiences), presented some "types of beauty," his sketches being greatly appreciated by the audience. Jake Fredman, the well-known "one-man opera," is most amusing, his efforts to teach the orchestra their part being very funny. Miss C and her Beau provide a most diverting and amusing quarter of an hour in their musical scena, the vocal effort of Miss Beau being well received. The Three Van Dammes, in a scene from happy Holland, contribute a really clever and novel gymnastic and equilibristic exhibition, and perform some very remarkable feats, and they fully deserved the most gratifying reception they received. Mr. Chas. Coborn, the original of "The man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo" and "Two lovely black eyes" (and who, incidentally, sung the chorus of the latter in no fewer than seven languages), absolutely brought the house down, his thumb-nail sketches being ludicrously funny, whilst the Keeley Bros. kept the ball rolling merrily with their fun in a sporting goods store.

An exceptionally brilliant act of real rag-time notions is that of the Eight Rag-time Sisters—Misses Poppie Dale, Ena Dale, Alice Manners, Vera Vardon, Ethel Donne, Maud Williams, Jeanne Rémi, and Billie Martell—a production notice of which appeared in last "Wednesday's Era." Amongst the items in this excellent act are a Spanish dance to rag-time music, by Miss Poppie Dale, a song by Miss Ena Dale, charmingly poised on the piano, and "On the Mississippi" by Miss Alice Manners, whilst the ear-haunting finale, "Parisienne," will soon be bellowed by almost everybody who hears it. We have nothing but praise for this act, and the octette thoroughly deserved the tumultuous applause which greeted them at the conclusion of their turn.

CHISWICK EMPIRE.

A distinctly interesting programme is provided by Mr. Stoll for his patrons here this week. Mr. Eyre's orchestra acquits itself bravely in a fine performance of Auber's "Crown Diamonds." Then Miss Mabel Sinclair, who still holds premier position as a lady ventriloquist, has some exceedingly funny dialogue with her coster boy, who tremendously pleased the audience. Miss Sinclair is quite a welcome addition to the programme, and meets with an encouraging reception. There is no question about the undoubted versatility of Carlisle and Wellmon. As duettists, instrumentalists, and last, but not least, as composers they are equally amazing. They warble quite amusingly of a certain Nile maiden and other items. Their songs are conspicuous, too, for cleanliness, and "Dr. Cupid" is altogether capital, though we affect no wild enthusiasm for "Il Trovatore" in rag-time.

In a trifle as light as air, entitled "Two Flats," Mr. George Barrett is delightfully droll, and the life and soul of the piece as Buggins, the bailiff. Miss Betty Rutherford is excellent as Marjorie. She merits a special word for her really delightful rendition of "Come, sing to me." Mr. Arthur Wellesley is satisfactory as Jack Beverley. With a style peculiarly her own, but quite worthy of special recognition, Jennie Johns sings capitally of "Pierrot on pier." She won the distinction of a triple "call." By sheer force of merit the Grotesques have won their way into public favour with their really entertaining burlesque, "The Village Concert." Mr. Vivian Foster is whimsicality itself as the Vicar, and the members of his congregation render yeomen service, and the fun waxes fast and furious. The original libretto has been carefully preserved, and the performance has not been spoiled by new additions.

At the Café Cosmopolit Fregolia amazes everyone with her lightning changes, and the audience is kept in a state of bewildering surprises. Her imitations of composers are not without merit. With the aid of the Bioscope Fregolia lets the audience into the secret, and shows how her quick-changes are done. Inasmuch as the artiste presents over a score of characters and makes over a hundred changes, her performance quite merits the verdict of "Wonderful!" Campbell and Barber are fine trick cyclists, and perform feats of audacity; while J. W. Rickaby maintains his reputation as a comedian of the first order. The Bioscope shows the Panama Canal in the making, and Mr. Desmond Young is the courteous and able acting-manager.

Francis O'Flynn, the celebrated banjoist, has been appearing at the Palace Theatre, Manchester, during the indisposition of the dainty head-liner, Mlle. Liane d'Eve, and his rendition of classical and popular music upon the banjo has won him enthusiastic receptions during his stay there. It is a curious coincidence that on Mr. O'Flynn's previous appearance at the Palace he had the distinguished honour of deputising for the great and only Miss Vesta Tilley, with the rare circumstance of playing two engagements at the above establishment within five weeks.

The fates have not been kind to Fred Williams at Clacton. Here he established a large stationer's business and invested his available capital in land, and in both ventures he was very unsuccessful. With his luck at the lowest ebb his local friends came to his rescue, organised two benefit performances on Monday and Tuesday at Clacton's Palace of Varieties, and many of his old stage friends of happier days nobly came at considerable expense and inconvenience to his assistance, with the result that it is hoped to hand the dear old fellow a fat cheque to tide him over his present serious financial difficulties.

Miss Lena Robbie, a clever juvenile comedienne and dancer, made a great success last week at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome in a new song, "The Paul Pry Moon," written by Mr. C. D. Steele and composed by Mr. Forbes Russell, the musical-director of the New Cross Empire. The catchy chorus of the song was thrown upon a screen at the back of the stage, and taken up by the audience with great gusto.

Nothing Succeeds like SUCCESS!

Miss Florrie Forde's

First twice-nightly Pantomime— "BABES IN THE WOOD" Written and Produced by Gilbert Payne.

Has Played to Record Business Everywhere. Refer any Theatre Visited.

Miss FLORRIE FORDE

Wishes to thank Mr. FRANCIS LAIDLER for his kindness in releasing her from her Pantomime Engagements, Theatre Royal, Leeds, 1913-14, also Prince's Theatre, Bradford, 1914-15, to enable her to produce her own Pantomimes.

"RED RIDING HOOD"

Is the subject of next year's Pantomime, which will be produced on a most elaborate scale, and is now fully booked.

Address all Communications—

FLORRIE FORDE, This Week—Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

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THE QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

The best traditions of the long popular variety house in the High-street, Poplar, are upheld by the Messrs. F. and M. Abrahams, and the generous and varied entertainment that is the rule here finds its reward in crowded and enthusiastic audiences. All the "stars" that one usually associates with the West-End are secured for the Queen's, and last week's programme—a fair sample of the companies a really enterprising management provides at very moderate admission charges—should satisfy the most exacting. It included the quaint Lancashire comedian George Formby; Fred Karno's company in their mirth-provoking playlet, "The Village Sports"; George Leyton, who presented that stirring and effectively staged scena "Lucknow"; Gilbert Girard, the clever animal and instrumental mimic; that popular vocalist, Arthur Reece; Mary Mayfren and company in the well-known dramatic sketch, "The Yellow Fang"; the Soho Trio in an attractive and smartly-worked dancing and vocal act; and other first-class turns.

The programme for the current week is mainly given over to Paul Armstrong's engrossing and amusing detective play, "Alias Jimmy Valentine," presented, by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman, by Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart and a capital company. The adventures of Lee Randall (Jimmy Valentine), gifted with a marvellous power of opening "combination" locks of safes by the sense of touch alone, who, soon after we first meet him determines to reform, create real interest. His adherence to the path of honesty, in the face of amazing difficulties, involves the telling of many lies; but Randall's heart is always in the right place, and he soon becomes very popular with the audience. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart gave a very finished and quietly effective embodiment of the title-rôle, Valentine's interview with his old pals, Bill Avery and Red Jocelyn, in the second act, being capitally handled, and the impersonation throughout a most ingenious one. Mr. John Richter realised the character of Doyle, the detective, exactly, and gave a portrayal on which he is to be highly complimented. Red Jocelyn was capitally handled by Mr. Herbert Lloyd; and the old offender, Bill Avery, humorous and bitter by turns, was admirably undertaken by Mr. Dan Niming. The scene wherein Valentine converts Jocelyn and Avery to honesty, and the astonishment of the latter when he is told he is to be given the job of watchman at a bank, appealed immensely to the packed audience at Thursday's matinée, and the humour of many of the scenes was never missed. Mr. Arnold Raper as the prison warder, Handler, and Mr. W. Lawrence as Robert Foy, the kindly Lieut.-Governor, were both responsible for excellent impersonations. "Blinky Davis," the forger, and "Dick the Rat," a sneak thief, were two clever little character sketches as represented by Messrs. G. Newton and Sydney Ernest, and other male rôles were satisfactorily accounted for by Messrs. Raymond de Claise, Dunstan Leech (very amusing as the excitable German inventor), R. Minton, Harry Tinsley, and Master Thomas Hill. Miss Maisie Richardson and Miss Edith Vogne made the most of their opportunities as two fussy ladies of the Gate of Hope Society, Miss Queenie Stanley did excellently as Kitty Lane, and Miss A. Bruce-Joy gave a very engaging and easy enactment of the delightful Rose Lane, whose gratitude and love for "Jimmy" are responsible for that resourceful hero's reformation.

Varieties also find a place in the scheme of amusement, the artistes appearing including Ella Symes, a smart comedienne, who extracts all the humour possible from a capital song concerning the allurements of a gramophone; Bert Symes, the genuine singing ploughboy, who is given a gratifying reception; and Lane and Dale, comedians and trick cyclists, who perform some wonderful feats on one wheel, and are altogether responsible for a smartly worked and attractive show. On the afternoon of our visit an "extra" appeared, a dusky-coloured vocalist and dancer, who is to be commended for his capital singing of the popular "Dixie" and a neatly-executed accompanying dance. Some amusing pictures are screened, and the contributions of the excellent little band, under the direction of Mr. L. Maurice, must also be mentioned.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

"Everybody," a morality play in four phases, which has evidently been inspired by the success which attended "Everywoman," is a star attraction here this week, and, as presented by Ernest Edelstein's excellent company, the playlet readily deserves the loud applause with which it is greeted. Russell and Held, another of the successful turns who hail from America, contribute a most enjoyable act, the lady being in the front rank of syncopated melody artistes, while her partner's dancing is par excellence, there being a refreshing virility about all their work, which easily accounts for their splendid reception. The Cowboy Jupiters, who loom large on the bill, were absent owing to indisposition on the night of our visit, but a capital deputy was found in Jack Pleasants, whose naive humour pleased the audience mightily in "Out all night," "I've never been married before," and "She makes me walk in rag-time."

Albertha Flahey is a refined and skilful musical act, is received most cordially. She contributes two violin solos in praiseworthy style, in between accompanying Alexander Webster, her pianist, whose fine tenor voice is heard to distinct advantage, and they receive several genuine curtain calls before they leave the stage. Millie Payne is easily renewing all her former popularity in her latest numbers, including "Waltzing," and her clever characterisations cause incessant mirth. Frank Powell's droll appearance as a railway porter instantly makes for mirth, and the relation of his amusing adventures whilst at work on the line provokes a constant ripple of laughter.

Mallia and Bart, as the Baggage Smashers, provide one of the cleverest acrobatic and tumbling acts that could be desired, whilst their unique and numerous "properties" add considerably to the value of their enjoyable turn. As if to prove the exception to the rule, that "the early turn catches the bird," Maggie Carr wins very hearty applause with her banjo playing and step dancing on an illuminated stool; and Phil Percival makes a decided hit in a new edition of his "Sexton Blake" burlesque.

In front, Mr. E. J. Macdermott looks well after the comfort of his numerous patrons, and he has a courteous lieutenant in Mr. E. Smith. In the orchestral chair, Mr. Albert Whipp, Mus. Bac., presides with distinction.

The death took place on Friday last at Bath of Mr. Albert Henry Truman, who for the last eleven years had been an attendant at the Palace, Bath. He had been a sufferer for some months, and during the last few weeks his illness prevented him from carrying out his duties, a task he had always performed with courtesy and tact. He was thirty-seven years of age.

The Stoll Suburban Houses.—The principal engagements for the outlying Empires next week are "Mexico," Hengler's great spectacle, and Phil Ray (Hackney); Marie Lloyd, Percival, and Victor Kelly (Shepherd's Three Rascals and James Lear[illegible] Station Master" (Chiswick); [illegible], Divesey, and "The Statistician" (Tottenham Green).

ARTISTES' PRESS ALBUM.

This column is placed at the disposal of artistes who desire to give added publicity to the opinions passed by the Press upon their acts. Particulars of insertion may be obtained on application to the Advertisement Manager.

"MILLIE'S LITTLE DECEPTION."

DOMESTIC FARCETTE AT CAMBERWELL.

Several amusing situations are to be found in the above playlet. Uncle Timothy Talbot is about to visit his nephew and niece, who about twelve months before have been united by the bonds of matrimony. It is the uncle's wish that the first child of the marriage shall be a boy, and as he has been told he is to expect to see one when he calls it naturally makes it rather awkward for the couple, who are without children. As they are expecting a share of the uncle's property at his death they do not wish to displease him, and accordingly borrow a child from a neighbour. This they palm off on their relative as their own son, but as the child happens to be a girl much amusement results. However, the uncle readily forgives the pair for the deception, owing to the fact that a little earlier the nephew has unknowingly been of some considerable service to him. As Millie Newby, Miss Maud Davies is decidedly good, and Mr. D. Jephson enacts the rôle of Dick Newby with vigour, making a great success of the part. As Uncle Timothy Talbot Mr. Gus Wheatman also scored heavily. The piece has been written and is being presented by Messrs. T. Benson and Fuller Stein.—"The Era," Feb. 26, 1913.

"MILLIE'S LITTLE DECEPTION."

Millie Newby .....Miss Maud Davies
Dick Newby .....Mr. D. Jephson
Mrs. Williams ..... Miss Sylvia St. Quentin
Uncle Timothy .....Mr. Gus Wheatman
Scene—Drawing-room at the Newby's suburban flat.

This amusing little piece, which was enthusiastically received on Monday, deals in a clever fashion with the deception played by a recently married nephew and niece upon an old uncle from whom they have "expectations." The uncle's greatest anticipation is that their first child shall be a son, and in order to deceive him in the absence of a real live baby, the couple borrow one from a friend. What fun ensues when the baby happens to be a girl may readily be imagined, but all is forgiven before the fall of the curtain. The trifle is admirably played by Miss Maud Davies and Mr. D. Jephson as the niece and nephew, and Mr. Gus Wheatman gives a capital performance as the Uncle, Miss Sylvia St. Quentin completing the cast as Mrs. Williams. "Millie's Little Deception" should certainly be seen again.—"The Stage," Feb. 27, 1913.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

Very little but standing room was to be found at this popular hall when our representative looked in at the second house on Wednesday evening. That state of affairs was not surprising, for the programme this week is decidedly attractive. Abey and Hearn, a couple of very energetic Hebrew acrobatic comedians, set the ball rolling with some good tumbling, following which Mr. Reg. Wentworth perfectly justified his description on the programme as the immaculate light comedy artiste. Mr. Wentworth is a comedian of the George Lashwood type, and has a couple of good songs in "I don't want to go to Piccadilly" and "Trying to find your way home," which he sings with any amount of dash and vigour. The well-known Brooklyn Comedy Four contribute as excellent a turn as ever, mingling good singing with clever fooling, and Lilian and M. Francis are two charming ladies who provide a most artistic musical act, which includes the playing of Liszt's No. 12 Rhapsody and some admirable singing. Mr. George Gilbey, the popular Lancashire comedian, quickly has the audience in a good humour with his clever comic song, "What'll," and gives them further food for laughter with his reminiscences as the keeper of an old curiosity shop. A turn of unusual interest is that given by Miss Ella Bell, "the little lady who tells you anything you want to know." Members of the audience are invited to write questions on slips of paper, and Miss Bell, without seeing the questions, gives the answers. Dutch Daly achieves his usual great success with his fine concertina playing and selections from his extensive repertoire of genuinely funny stories, and Miss Ina Lorimer, in Scottish attire, is a very pretty and lively artiste. She sings a couple of good songs—one particularly good, "Maggie Maclaren from the Isle of Arran"—and dances in a way which arouses the audience to great enthusiasm. Lastly, we have one of the most important items on the programme, Miss Beaumont Collins and company in a somewhat sensational one-act play, "Leaves of Memory." The play deals with an incident in the life of one Ruth Chaloner, whom unfortunate circumstances have placed more or less in the power of a rogue named Frank Egerton, by whom she is used as a decoy. Almost at the moment when Ruth has decided to end her life, she finds a prospect of future happiness in a certain Major Phillip, on leave from India, an old-time sweetheart. The play is quite dramatic, and is well played by, in addition to Miss Collins, Mr. David Baird as Major Phillip, Mr. J. R. Spurling as Frank Egerton, and Mr. J. W. Lawrence as Foster, a man-servant. Mr. Sidney G. Slark is now the acting-manager at this house.

Applications are invited from concert party proprietors and others for licence to give concerts in the bandstand enclosure at Sheerness-on-Sea during the summer. Applications to Mr. W. A. Baskett, Council offices, Sheerness.

The success of the artistes who figured as principal boys and principal girls in the several pantomimes during the past season has been of so pronounced a character, their triumph has been so unprecedented, that booking managers are becoming acrobatic almost in their struggle to enlist the services of the "stars" for the tours which these gentlemen control. There will be no looking for "flops" in the course of a week or so, as all the artistes will then be placed for the season; indeed, many have already signed contracts several years ahead. And the pantomime engagements, in addition to being highly successful themselves, have also had the good effect of lengthening the salaries previously paid to the artistes in question—a desideratum in which both professionals and agents are deeply interested. The success of the pantomimes are due to the inclusion of rag-time; artistes featured syncopation in their repertoires because of the facilities offered by Mr. Bert Feldman for the proper presentation of these melodies and ditties, and also because of the great optimism as to success which inspired the action of the Rag-time King, whose regal castle is to be found in Arthur-street. Rag-time's triumph has been so supreme that it must ntinue to be the staple dish in the theatrical u for a long while to come yet; and, that o, the panto. "stars" must fit themselves proper material to put over the foot- dless to say, they have turned to the for the rare jewels which that El and hundreds of acts have been presentation during the week. have shown their great wis- ve no fear on the subject eing the lodestone that

MR. HATTON WHARTON.

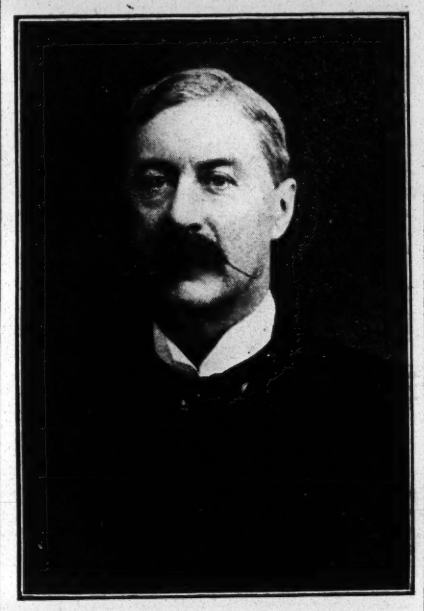
LEAVING MOSS' EMPIRES' ADMINISTRATION.

After fifteen years' service with Moss' Empires, Mr. Hatton Wharton will next week sever his long connection with the firm, in order to take up similar duties in one of the most important concerns in the variety world, full particulars of which will be announced in due course.

Mr. Oswald Stoll really "found him," but before this occurred Mr. Wharton had had a varied and adventurous career. His first effort at entertaining was as a reciter at Burnley, at the age of sixteen. He was not a success. So as in those days a good many unqualified doctors existed, young Wharton entered into partnership with a medico in the Midlands, and, remarkable to relate, helped to turn a non-paying practice into a paying one.

But the "call of the footlights" came strongly to him after eighteen months with the doctor, and one day he had the opportunity of joining a stock company at the Coatbridge Theatre Royal, enacting that intense melodrama, "Michael Strogoff." He played the parts of the Czar, a Grand Duke, and the executioner in turn every night—truly a quick-change achievement. Something went wrong with the finances of the company, and Mr. Wharton had to tramp through the Galtee Mountains, and got snowed up.

Mr. Wharton next played "Hamlet" and "got the bird," afterwards getting a seven years' engagement with a touring "Uncle Tom's Cabin" company. That was thirty-two years ago, and in the plantation scene he introduced for the first



[Photo. by Hana

MR. HATTON WHARTON.

time a variety show. During the next ten years he toured his own companies, "My Native Land" and "In Fear of the Law."

Mr. Wharton is an enthusiastic angler, and one day he rented a fishing cottage on the Ribble with the intention of having a fortnight's holiday. He had scarcely baited his hook before he received an invitation to become assistant-manager at the Nottingham Empire. He had long wanted to get an insight into the variety business, and as at that time the Nottingham Empire was the finest variety palace in the provinces, he packed up his tackle and went to the City of Lace. During his first week's duties he caught red-handed no fewer than seven of the theatre staff in the act of misappropriation. Mr. Oswald Stoll was proprietor of the theatre then and, realising that he had a valuable man in Mr. Wharton, promoted him to be manager, and later circuit manager for the Midlands.

CHEMICAL CLEANING AND DYEING COMPANY.

SOCIAL AND DANCE.

The annual social and dance of the Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Company was held on Saturday last, Feb. 22. The staff visited the matinée performance at the Palladium, and afterwards had tea, to which a company of fifty sat down. This was served in one of the large despatch rooms in their premises at 6, Argyll-street, W., which was beautifully decorated for the occasion. After tea the chairman, Mr. A. W. Fisher, manager of the Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Company, welcomed the staff and expressed his satisfaction at seeing such a good company on the occasion of the first social which had been held since his taking over the management of the business. Mr. Fisher referred to the schemes of reorganisation which had been initiated, and mentioned that these were having their natural result in greatly increased business for the company and satisfaction to their many patrons. As theatrical cleaners and dyers, it was essential that their organisation should be so perfect that disappointment to customers was almost an impossibility, and he was glad to find that their services were being so appreciated in the profession. He thanked the staff for their loyalty to him, and for their hearty co-operation in the development of the business.

The remainder of the evening was spent in varied entertainment, including whist drive, exhibition of new Pathescope pictures (supplied by Houghtons, Ltd.), gramophone and other musical selections. Dancing was then indulged in, and continued until a late hour. The function was the most successful which had been held by the company for many years. The arrangements for the evening were in the capable hands of Messrs. Lockyer, Hunt, Wright, and Bailey.

The customary calm and staid atmosphere of the Tivoli is being disturbed by the cheery trio, Hedges Bros. and Jacobson, whose exhilarating performance is received with enthusiastic applause. They are exploiting with tremendous success two of Messrs. Feldman and Co.'s splendid new issues, entitled "Let me live and stay in Dixieland" and "When the midnight choo choo leaves for Alabam."

When dull winter days make one sometimes tired of existence almost, the return visits of our migratory birds are anxiously looked forward to, because they are the real harbingers of spring, and we know what the song says: "In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love." But spring has other attractions for the most of us, whether young or old, besides the ascription of the poet to the bull's eyes made by Cupid's arrows. It is the season that witnesseth the return to the variety stage of the "star" warblers who have been entertaining the public in panto. throughout the three countries, and whose captivating figures and voices—aye, and feet—we in the metropolis have been sighing after for many weary weeks. Now they are nearly all back with us once more, and all goes as merry as a marriage bell.

HOUDINI, THE SELF-LIBERATOR.

THE WATER TORTURE CELL.

"Locks, bolts, and bars soon fly asunder" is a phrase that must have sunk deeply into the youthful heart of Harry Houdini, for the phrase may be said to have moulded his life work. For years he has been giving the amusement-seeking world in England, America, and the Continent a series of experiments in self-liberation, that have shown not only the man's seemingly inexhaustible energy, but his wonderful ingenuity, his tireless persistency, and his indomitable spirit—a spirit which knows no such word as fail. During his earlier career Houdini escaped with ridiculous ease from all sorts of manacles, but his feats were copied. Imitators cropped up on all sides, and "Handcuff Kings" became as common as blackberries. But courage, resolution, and ingenuity allied can always distance the copyist, and nothing daunted, Houdini set to work to invent greater difficulties, more serious problems of escape; and his daring and contempt of danger have made him a peer among mechanical geniuses, and he holds a unique position in the world of variety, that has been won, and could be won only by a brilliant series of triumphs.

Love of his work is affiliated, in his case, to seriousness of purpose, and he is endowed with the nerve, the fibre, and the grit, the strenuousness, that make for victory. How much further the force of his ingenuity is going to carry him it is for him and not for us to say; but in his latest invention, the "Water Torture Cell," which he is exploiting this week at Finsbury Park Empire, he would seem to have set himself a task of such colossal difficulty that he might well be proud of it as the final triumph of his career. It is a problem of self-liberation that might well make the stoutest heart quail. Indeed, Houdini himself considers his escape from the Water Torture Cell (his own invention) the greatest performance of his remarkable life. Calm and collected, he explains to a voluntary committee from the audience in a quiet, unassuming way, the nature of his invention, dwells very naturally on his escape therefrom. There is a complete absence of the how jargon that one has to suffer from the hired "lecturer." One feels that one is listening to a man who has an iron will and a supreme confidence. Yet Houdini, with characteristic modesty, suggests just the bare possibility of failure, which he very properly guards against by timely precautions.

The "cell" is a tank about 5ft. 6in. deep, and sufficiently wide to just hold its inventor. There is a lid to it, made with two apertures to hold the feet—in much the same way as the old stocks of the seventeenth century. Having assumed swimming costume, Houdini lies on his back on the stage. His feet are placed through the two holes in the iron-bound lid, and secured by means of padlocks. The lid is then hauled up into position, the inert form of the self-liberator being lifted by two attendants until he reaches position head downwards above the cell, which is filled with water from a fire hose and from two large buckets. After breathing deeply for a minute, a signal is given, and the lid closes down until Houdini is entirely immersed. Curtains are then drawn round the apparatus, but an attendant keeps watch in case of an accident. Then all one can do is to sit and watch hopefully, but with pent-up anxiety, which is relieved when, within the space of a few minutes, the curtain is drawn, and Houdini jumps out of the tank a free man. The audience marvels, and for a moment is spellbound, and then there breaks out a perfect hurricane of applause. The victor takes call after call, and smilingly acknowledges the recognition of his prowess, indomitable courage, and ingenuity.

STAGE HAND'S TRAGIC DEATH.

The death of a scene shifter at the Palladium Theatre was inquired into by the Westminster Coroner on Wednesday. The deceased man, Frederick Edward Good, 57, who lived at Tooting, was at work under the stage on Saturday, and whilst looking for some scenery he accidentally fell down the lift shaft.

James Beatie, the property master, said that when picked up Good was dead. He had fallen down a big square hole underneath the stage which was in the centre of a sort of platform. Water accumulated in the trench. There was nothing to prevent anybody walking about from falling down the well.

Thomas Frost, the property master, now associated with the Matheson Lang Company, said deceased, himself, and another man were looking for a piece of scenery for the afternoon performance of "Westward Ho!" He heard a thud and a splash of water and found that Good had disappeared. They eventually got him up from the well, quite dead, by means of rope and ladder. deceased was lying in the water.

Ernest Hook, the stage manager at the Palladium, in answer to the coroner, said the place where the accident occurred was well and sufficiently, if not brilliantly, lit.

The Coroner said he had visited the place and a stranger might not see the lift hole at all.

Witness replied that it was a very large hole, and he hardly thought this possible. He remarked that at present they were "rather cramped" owing to the enormous programmes night and day, which necessitated very quick work behind the scenes, especially after the matinées. Any recommendation of the jury would, he said, be carried out.

The doctor, who attended deceased spoke of the danger of the spot where the accident occurred, describing it as a "horrible looking place."

The Coroner said that anybody unfamiliar with the spot might make a false step, fall down the well, and lose his life. If there had been a little more light there the fatality very likely would not have occurred, whilst if a rail had been there it might have made all the difference. It was a revelation to strangers when they went behind the scenes, and the marvel to him was that in such places accidents did not happen every day. That they did not, was a great credit to those responsible for the management.

In their verdict of "Accidental Death," the jury added a rider recommending additional light and the provision of a rail. The stage manager said this would be seen to.

Mr. Victor Lewisohn, elocutionist, has been specially engaged to appear at the Alhambra N.S.L. concert next Sunday.

All friends of Chas. Grattan, comedian, will be glad to know that he is making a rapid recovery from his illness (pleurisy).

Queen Alexandra has promised to be present at the opening day of the fair and variety show which is being organised for the benefit of the Quinquennial Appeal Fund of the London Hospital and will take place on June 11 and 12 at the Albert Hall.

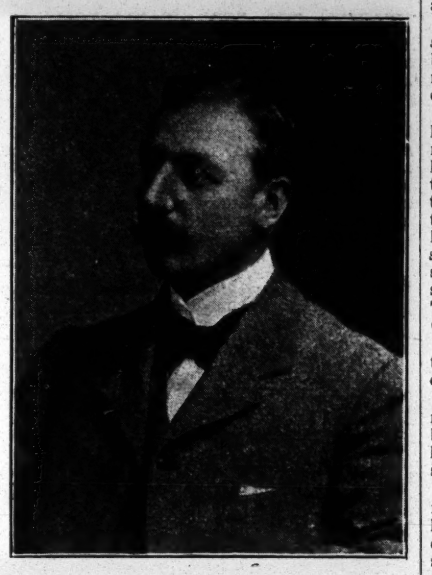
Miss Cressie Leonard sailed last Saturday for South Africa, and was bade au revoir by a large gathering of her friends at Waterloo. Miss Leonard is not unknown in the land of gold and diamonds, she having been there quite recently, and her success was tremendous. Miss Leonard is depending entirely upon songs from the Feldman house, and she will introduce in South Africa the firm's latest ballad, "When I lost you," almost simultaneously with its production in the British Isles.

MUSIC HALL FAVOURITES.

MR. BERNARD STAVORDALE.

The subject of our article is well known in the profession as the originator of a peculiar and charming method of banjo playing, whereby a wonderful effect of singing in the distance is produced from that somewhat under-estimated instrument, and to such perfection has he brought this during the past fifteen years that the quintette which bears his name has been and is in demand in every quarter of the globe.

Mr. Stavordale, or, to give him his full name, Mr. Bernard Wilmshurst Stavordale Hounsell, has had a varied and interesting career, for it was not until he had attained the age of thirty that he took up the banjo professionally. Born in a family of sporting proclivities, he commenced hunting at the early age of eight, and at nine was quite a well-known figure with the Cattistock Hounds. He was educated at Weymouth College and the Academy at Lausanne in Switzerland, subsequently entering his father's business at Bridport, Dorsetshire, in which town his father, Mr. Herbert Hounsell, held the office of mayor on three occasions. At the age of eighteen Mr. Stavordale migrated to London, where he obtained his heart's desire and became hunting correspondent to the "Field," and also wrote hunting articles for "Land and Water," the "County Gentleman," and "Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News," and signed respectively "Straight Pelham," "B.W.H.," "Benedick," and "Covert Coat." Subsequently he was appointed special correspondent. This continued for seven years, during which he became initiated into the art of steeplechasing, riding in the local hunt and point-to-point



[Photo by Martin and Sallnow.

MR. BERNARD STAVORDALE.

races. Mr. Stavordale was married then, and had a young family growing up, so he once more returned to London to take up an appointment as sub-editor and correspondent for "Land and Water," writing on polo, pony racing, horse sales, and coaching, the last mentioned being then in its zenith. In 1892 he wrote "Hounsell's Coach Guide," which was published by the "Road," and subsequently by the "Sportsman," and when he ceased his connection with "Land and Water," Mr. Stavordale joined the staffs of both papers.

At this time he played the banjo for amusement, and then started an amateur quartette composed of his brother Eustace, his brother-in-law, and a friend named Greer, and played at various "smokers" as the Stavordale Quartette. "How did I get the name of Stavordale?" said the clever artiste in reply to an interviewer preparatory to his departure for Australia. "Well, my grandmother was a Miss Fox-Strangways and my great uncle, Tom Strangways, who at that time only had one life between him and the earldom of Ilchester. Stavordale was the viscountcy belonging to the earldom. My elder brother had been christened Strangways and I Stavordale. I thought it would make a better stage name than Hounsell, and so later on when I decided to take up the stage life I dropped the Hounsell and kept the Stavordale. After we had played for some years like this I met the late George Miles, harpist. I had then as partners Jack Thomas, Tom Greer, and Walter Bartlett, and we got Miles to join us, calling ourselves the Miles-Stavordale Quintette. As such we opened at the London Empire, and subsequently visited America, Germany, France, and Russia. As my youngsters grew up some of them wanted to join, so I taught two sons and a daughter the banjo, and one of my boys, Guy, practically taught himself the harp. The other member is Miss Denton, who has been with me for over ten years, and who has been a host in herself in loyalty during our many ups and downs, besides being a fine artiste. We have travelled through Sweden, Holland, Belgium, France, Austria, and Italy; in fact, we only returned from Italy after a ten months' tour on May 5.

"Before the strike," said Mr. Stavordale, "we had a fair share of English work, but since then we have not been in any very great demand at home, so for the present we are content to roam. Perhaps later on we may be able to fix another tour in the Old Country, but the winter of 1913-14 we are again booked on a German tour. Of course I still take an interest in home affairs, and am very proud to think that I was the means of finding Brinsworth, the lovely house where the old pros. are basking at Twickenham after their strenuous lives. I ran down to see the place recently. It is simply grand. Now please convey my regards to all my English friends."

What a violin can do in the way of conversation is one of the surprising things that Mr. Jay Whidden, the eccentric rag-time violinist, is demonstrating to Empire Theatre audiences just now. Simple phrases like "How are you?" and "How do you do?" roll off the strings in quite human fashion, and when Mr. Whidden wants to make his violin weep he does so with the same thoroughness. In fact, he has discovered the human note in that instrument like no one else has ever done. This is all the more remarkable considering that Mr. Whidden has had the misfortune to lose the tips of his second and third fingers—his string fingers, too. It happened some years ago, when he first began playing, and he had to give up all thoughts of continuing a violinist for seven years. The cause of it was blood poisoning.

In the interval Mr. Whidden followed a good many occupations—boxer, boilermaker, and horse trainer are some—but the violin called him back again, and he was the first man seriously to tackle rag-time on it. This was at San Francisco, where he originated what is called the "bear cat" in the States. His partnership with Mr. Con Conrad has been wonderfully successful Mr. Conrad plays the piano with lightning rapidity; and the hustle that the duo bring into their turn in "Everybody's Doing It" has not a little to do with the extraordinary popularity this revue is enjoying.

THE STAGE IN CEYLON.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

Singapore is occasionally honoured by a visit from some entertainer hailing from the homeland, but the drama that flourishes on the island is of the native variety, written by natives and played by natives. For the benefit of white people attending the theatre the plot of the play is always printed in the best available English and presented to each visitor, who, otherwise, would experience some difficulty in guessing what all the turmoil was about. The native printer, wrestling with an unfamiliar language, endeavours to make things clear; he tries hard, and, if he occasionally makes confusion worse confounded, the fault is not his, but that of his limited education.

The native theatre aims high. It calls itself "Theatre Royal," and it constantly announces "New Actors!" and "New Clown!" The company is, in large letters,

THE POPULAR STAR OPERA.

It embraces, so you are told, "The Royal Theatrical Company of Singapore, the Dutch and Malay Variety Entertainers." In extra fat type comes the news that

Our new Clown, MOHD. USOP, leading Actor,
MAT NOOR, will appear in a specially selected
An entirely new play,
"ZULME AZLUM,"
will be staged.

The peculiar arrangement of the foregoing lines arises from the fact that the native printer, when once he has a nice line in type, hates to break it up. He prefers to dodge his new matter in between the old lines. It saves him trouble, and if some sentences look odd and others unfinished anybody can guess the meaning, anyway.

The drama itself, "Zulme Azlum," is best described from the synopsis furnished on the playbill; one can get at the hang of the plot that way much better than by following the performances of the new clown and the leading actor.

Azlum, it appears, was King of Abyssinia, and he wanted to marry the Princess of Turkestan, named Noornissa, but her brother declined the honour of the alliance. So Azlum levied heavy taxes on the brother, and ordered his mercenaries to plunder the young man's property and carry off the girl. "Shamsharoo" (the brother), "having heard of this, engaged a ship, started with his sister to a distant country. Azlum also engaged a ship and followed them. While sailing a heavy storm arose, and the ships collided and foundered. The Princess Noornissa was Miraculously save" (of course she was!), "and went ashore."

However, her luck was out. She fared no better, to go on with, than any other heroine of melodrama. Let us proceed with her simple story:—

"An aged Ameer in a carriage with his coachman came to enjoy the sea air. Having seen this beauty of beauties, came to assistance and asked her who she was." You can guess what follows—some of it.

"He takes her to his house and enticed her to marry him"—which, by the way, was rather honourable on the part of the old gentleman. Of course, "she refused"—and the Ameer still pursued her. She "gave him a slap and blinded him of one eye. One day"—note the sudden step from one interest to another—"the Princess told the coachman to try and find her brother, and bring him over to her and she will reward him. The coachman happened to go by the sea shore, encountered a Negro and asked him who he was, the Negro said that he was the brother of Princess Noornissa, so the coachman took the Negro to the Princess, when she saw him she got alarmed"—her distress, we must admit, was quite legitimate and perfectly natural—"and the Negro trying to coax her to marry him, she refused"—again must we admire her resolution to remain single—"and the Negro trying to take advantage of her, so they were struggling, the Ameer came and cut the Negro's nose and handcuffed both." The old gentleman believed her to be guilty, and once more the beauteous damsel was in dire distress.

There were worse troubles in store for her. Her brother "after all, came to the Ameer's house, and the Ameer accused the Princess very much. The Prince was ashamed of her. While in the act of doing so"—presumably this means while in the act of being ashamed of the young lady—"the Prince of Kingdom came to her county. So the Prince had to bury her half body in the sea shore and went away." The idea was that the tide would come in and drown the poor dear. But—of course, there is a but, for this is melodrama!—"venerable old man came to her assistance who raised her and gave a bottle of medicine." Had he given her a box of pills one would scent an advertisement here, but the native drama is not so mercenary. "He told her to take this medicine and go to the city in male attire." This does not mean she was to swallow the doses, for the consequences might have been serious, and a playwright must have some consideration for even his heroine. She was to take the medicine—to the city.

By virtue of it, the good old man assured her, "you will be a prosperous and virtuous woman in the world." The facts turned out as prophesied "She went to the city administered and cured the nose-cut Negro, the blind Ameer, the coachman, and many others." A medicine that would mend a cut nose and restore sight to a blind eye should be a profitable commodity to put on the market. It is a pity we have not the formula.

However, to end the story, let it be recorded that all turned out exactly as the experienced playgoer would expect. "At last, the Prince of the Kingdom was married to Princess Noornissa, the virtuous." The Malays like a happy ending just as much as other people. Their drama is a very unsophisticated affair, being little more than a series of incidents; but they are very terrible incidents while they last.

Singapore is nothing if not up-to-date, so it has its living pictures, and combines with them a wrestling exhibition.

Here is a portion of its interesting bill:—

"Express
at the
HARIMA HALL, CINEMATOGRAPH.
PROF. YAMATO,
The Undefeated Ju-Jitsu Champion,
and
BAKAR SINGH,
Sihk Wrestling Champion, who is well known having had defeated PROF. KUMAGAI beforetime.
Will Compete their Skill
To the end.
For a Substantial Purse of Prize."

When the doughty champions had duly competed their skill to the end for a substantial purse of prize, it is to be hoped the better man won.

A new act was presented at the Britannia, Hoxton, this week by Messrs. Hughes, Hughes, and Harlem. Two new numbers, "On the Mississippi" and "Take me to that Swanee shore," and some novel dancing was received with great applause.

Elaborate arrangements are being made at the London Coliseum for a Good Friday evening concert, under the direction of Mr. Alfred Dove, the musical director, at which many prominent artistes will appear. Included amongst those already engaged are Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Evie Greene, Miss Perceval Allen, Miss Helen Blain, Signorita Melita, Miss Hope Charteris, Mr. Maurice D'Oisley, Mr. Furness Williams, Mr. Wilfred Platt, Mr. Cooper Mitchell, and Olga, Edgar and Eli Hudson. Other attractions are being arranged and will be duly announced.

THE OLD GRECIAN SALOON.

BY S. J. ADAIR FITZ-GERALD.

Before going forward too far it is necessary to go back a little to what may be termed the inception of the sing-song, and to the uprising of things. First, the old Eagle Tavern, which dates back so far that its early records are entirely lost. The Eagle was a beerhouse with tea gardens attached, at the end of the seventeenth century, and was well patronised by "visitors from London" and the adjacent City, who made it a regular rendezvous for nightly enjoyment. Here the City madam, with her lord and master and their offspring, would disport, and here, too, would descend in companies the apprentices with their sweethearts, to sit and sip "syllabubs in cans" and the home-brewed ale of the master of the inn, what time Bacchanalian and other songs would be sung, either by subsidised artistes or the waiters with a taste for music, between the "waits," so to speak. This, as already suggested, was, of course, an early kind of sing-song. It was not, however, until early in 1800 that the Eagle became famous as the New Grecian Saloon, when it began to be advertised in the daily papers. Here is an advertisement from the year 1832, which has more than passing interest. "New Grecian Saloon, Eagle Tavern, City Road. A Concert Every Evening." Then follows this announcement:—"A monody, to the memory of the late Sir Walter Scott, will be produced this evening, written expressly for these concerts by Mr. W. Orme, the music by Mr. J. R. Chapman, the recitations by Mrs. Smith, Messrs. Bell and Davidson, the vocal parts by all the company. Miss Smith, from the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, is engaged for these concerts, and will sing several favourite songs every evening, and appear in a new vaudeville in a few days."

Then follows this announcement:—"The Vaudevilles of 'The Admiral's Vagaries,' 'Jealousy,' and 'The Knowing Ones Outwitted,' being established in public favour, will be recited and sung alternately till further notice, and several new ones will specially be produced." Soon after this the management changed hands, and Mr. E. R. Butler, the new lessee, continued the same policy of public enterprise, and things went on well for two more years, comic songs and ballads always being the order of the late afternoon and the night. In 1834 Thomas Rouse—"Bravo" Rouse—took possession of the premises, and started the Grecian proper on its remarkable career as a variety and theatrical combination. In 1838 the house was rebuilt, and blossomed into the Royal Eagle Coronation Pleasure Grounds and Grecian Saloon, City-road. Thomas Rouse, quite a character in his way, having been originally a bricklayer and then a builder, took a practical share in the direction of the Saloon, which was afterwards to be known as the Grecian Theatre, when Benjamin O. Conquest took possession, in 1851. "Bravo" Rouse, by the way, used to occupy a prominent private box, and on his appearance there used to be saluted by his friends and admirers with cries of "Bravo, Rouse." On one occasion he went to sleep in the box, and on waking up declared that the performance must be stopped, as he had been robbed of his watch and chain. However, the next minute, finding it on the floor, he obligingly said the performance might be resumed. Capillaire was a favourite drink at this establishment, made of syrup and spirits, but the mystery of its compounding is lost for ever.

Amongst my collection of old programmes I find a handbill dated 1838, giving details of the place with the name I have already stated. "Proprietor, J. Rouse. Unrivalled galas, with brilliant fireworks and splendid illuminations, and a series of superior amusements, every Monday and Wednesday. To attempt a description of the numerous and varied sources of Entertainment at this Unrivalled Establishment would be vain. Concerts in the open air, dancing, and vaudeville in the saloon, set paintings, cosmoramas, fountains, grottoes, elegant buildings, arcades, colonnades, grounds, statuary, music, to render it a fairy scene, of which a due estimation can only be found by inspection. Open every evening. On Thursday a benefit for the Laudable Pension Society, Bethnal Green. (See bills.) The whole under the direction of Mr. Raymond. Brilliant discharge of fireworks by the inimitable artiste, Mr. Brock. A band will play during the evening. Admission, 2s. Doors open, 5 p.m." Clement Scott says: "Thomas Rouse, who was wise in his generation, and passionately fond of music, had copied the example of Madame Vestris at the Olympic as regards the better adornment of the theatres and sumptuous furnishing of the stage; for, believe me, it is erroneous to suppose that theatres were all barns and the stages deserts before the early 'sixties. Rouse's saloon contained a church organ, a grand and self-acting piano, and seats with ledges in front—for refreshments, consisting of pies, bread and cheese, and such like solid delicacies, were provided for the first time. It held about 700 people."

It is noteworthy that Rouse was a very smart showman, and was constantly making additions to his company. In 1839, for instance, he engaged Robert Glindon, who wrote and sang songs for the Saloon. A few of these are still occasionally to be met with—"The literary dustman," and "Biddy, the basket-woman." As a specimen of the kind of song popular in those days, I submit one verse of "The literary dustman":

Some folks may boast of sense, egad,
Vot holds a lofty station;
But, tho' a Dustman I have had
A liberal hedication.
And tho' I never vent to school,
Like many of my betters,
A turnpike man vot arn't no fool,
He learnt me all my letters;
They calls me Adam Bell, 'tis clear,
As Adam was the first man,
And by a co-in-cide-ance queer,
Vy, I'm the first of Dustmen.
I'm the first of Dustmen.

The dustman with his noisy bell was quite a personality until well into the 'sixties of last century, and it was a favourite topic with the humorist, together with the sweep, the eel-pie man, the rat catcher, the Italian hurdy-gurdy nuisance, the flute player, and the muffin man. All these were made subjects of song and banter on the stage, and in the comic papers, including "Punch," "Punchinello," and "The Man in the Moon," as drawings by Seymour, Leech, and Phiz will testify. An anonymous writer in "T.P.'s Weekly" some little time back refers to the dustman of his early youth dressed in red velveteen "smalls," white cotton stockings, bright bandana neckerchief, short pipe, and pewter pot. "Our dustman, as we knew him, was a picturesque reality—a jolly, good-natured sort of fellow, fond of his beer, and not against an occasional drop of gin—as who would be? When on his business intent his approach was heralded by the sound of his loud-toned handbell." The same writer describes a dustman's wedding procession on a Whit Monday morning, the locality being Old-street, St. Luke's. Arrested by the loud clangour of handbells approaching, he awaited its arrival, and this is what he saw. "Four sturdy dustmen in full regalia of velveteens, white slops, new flip-flaps, short pipes, and each adorned with a large bunch of flowers on his breast, and each one ringing his bell for all it was worth. These were followed by four more, carrying on their shoulders the bridegroom in a large washing tub—probably the property of the bride. He, too, was smoking a short clay, and had on his breast a bouquet of the dimen[sion] of an ordinary cabbage. Then followed [the] and her attendant damsel on foot, [pro]fusely decorated with flowers and ribbons. A crowd of sympathetic admirers brought up the rear, all full of fun and enjoyment."

The music hall songs in those days, as in ours, were taken by the acute observer of manners from the popular trend of the day.

Glindon was quite one of the foremost buff singers of his time. He was also a scenic artist of considerable ability, and when his voice failed him he was engaged at Drury Lane to assist in painting the scenery. He died at the age of sixty-seven, in 1866, leaving a fine record of songs behind him.

It was in 1839 that the Grecian was the scene of the first appearance of two men who later were to make names for themselves. The first was Frederic Robson, and the other Johnson, the name under which Sims Reeves made his first stage bow. Robson came from the Standard in Shoreditch. He played at the Grecian, on this occasion, Lump in "The Wags of Windsor," with Sims Reeves, who also sang at the alfresco concerts, and acted the character of Charles to Robson's Wormwood in "The Lottery Ticket." Robson played and sang in comedy, farce, and opera almost continuously for ten years before his talents were "discovered" by Mr. Henry Webb, who, with his brother, were famous as the two Dromios in Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors" at the Princess's Theatre and elsewhere. Mr. Webb was the lessee of the Queen's Theatre, Dublin, and to Ireland Robson went and remained there three years, when he returned to London and was snapped up by the elder Farren for the Olympic, where practically he reigned as the king of comedians for several years.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, Jan. 22.—"The Sunshine Girl" at Her Majesty's drew an enormous house on the 18th, every seat being reserved days before the production by J. C. Williamson, Ltd. The music was directed by Mr. Andrew MacCunn. Miss Blanche Browne is Delia Dale, a rôle which suited her in every respect. In her songs and duets her vocal work was very charming. Miss Grace Palotte triumphed as Lady Rosabelle Merrydew, and she was loudly applauded for her happy singing of the laughing song. Miss Jessie Lonnen was an excellent danseuse as Marie Silvaine, and she sang the duet and lead well in the "Gaby glide." Miss Billy Barlow had a hearty welcome on her return after a long absence from the home of her many successes. It was a change from her pantomime boys to see her as the frolicsome grass widow, Brenda Blacker, but she achieved every comic possibility. Mr. Leslie Holland was Lord Bicester, and Mr. Jack Cannot was Floot, both giving the audience a full supply of comedy. Mr. Bantock promoted excellent fun as "Commodore" Parker, and Mr. Frank Greene made Vernon Blundell stand out. Mr. Arthur Lissant (Hodgson) and Mr. Edward Nobel (Stepneyak) were clever helpers. Mr Wybert Stamford supervised all, and Miss Minnie Hooper directed the ballet work.

"Faust," with Miss Beatrice Perry's charming Marguerite, fills the Theatre Royal, and the Criterion has not one empty seat, all being filled by witnesses of "Milestones."

"The Parish Priest" at the Palace will be followed by Mr. Allen Doone in "In Old Donegal."

"The Monk and the Woman" attracts large crowds to the Adelphi. The Tivoli has two splendid acrobatic turns by the Sons of the Desert and the Patty Frank Troupe. Miss Florence Baines My Fancy, and Alexander Prince, Minnie Kaufmann, Chinko, the juggler, and many more provide a huge and attractive bill.

"Alexander, the Crown Prince of Jerusalem," is being performed at the Standard Theatre by a Jewish dramatic company. The next production is to be "The Old Witch," followed by "Sulamith."

AMUSEMENTS IN BRUSSELS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BRUSSELS, Feb. 24.—Belgian authors are in favour just now, and it may be said that the country can boast actually of a host of talented men of letters. The whole world has admired Maeterlinck's masterpieces. Such clever writers as Kistemaeckers and Francis de Croisset, Picard and Spaak have been warmly welcomed in Paris; in light comedy Paris has confirmed the success of "Le Mariage de Mlle. Beulemans," and only last week the same authors, Fonson and Wicheler, have triumphed with their "Demoiselle de Magasin." If we turn to composers, they are none the less interesting, and the names of Cæsar Franck, Peter Benoit, Jan Blockx, and Gilson are sufficiently well known amongst all lovers of music. A newcomer amongst these composers has just scored a big success at the Théâtre de la Monnaie with "Kaatje," a three-act lyrical play, adapted by Henri Cain from Paul Spaak's fine comedy. Mr. Victor Buffin has composed on this interesting libretto a refined score full of distinction, of exquisite feeling, and of attractive poetry. Kaatje is the girl from the North, and Pomona is the Southern maid who stands between Jean and his affianced, intruding on their intimacy. Pomona, transplanted from her warm climate, cannot stand the misty atmosphere of the North, nor prevail on Jean to leave his beloved Lowlands, and Kaatje triumphs over her rival.

Although an amateur, Mr. Victor Buffin, a commanding officer of the 1st Regiment of the "Guides" and an A.D.C. of the King, is not a novice. Under the able tuition of Auguste de Boek and of Jongen, he has progressed considerably, and has had several of his symphonic pieces performed at the Ysaye concerts (a "Suite d'Orchestre" and a symphonic poem "Lovelace"). His lyrical play was enthusiastically received by a select audience. It was lavishly produced, carefully staged, and had the favour of a fine interpretation with Mlle. Heldy in the title-part, Mlle. Charney in the part of Pomona, Mr. Girod as Jean, and Mr. de Cléry as the father. The leader of the orchestra was no other than Otto Lohse.

The other theatres are doing well with recognised Parisian successes. The Park Theatre has billed Erckmann-Chatrian's "L'Ami Fritz"; at the Galleries "Primerose" is drawing big audiences; at the Olympia one can laugh at "Un Coup de Téléphone," and one can roar at the Vaudeville at "Le Présidente." "Rêve de Valse" is entrancing the Alhambra clients, and the Gaité has struck oil with Flers, Caillavet, and Claude Terrasse's operetta "Les Travaux d'Hercule."

The Concord Entertainers, of which Mr. Frank J. Woolf, one of our correspondents, is musical director, have been fully booked up for the next summer season on a tour of the East Coast.

The new Empire revue is in full rehearsal, and on Saturday morning last on the platform at Euston, just before his departure, the engagement of Mr. Seymour Hicks was fixed up. The comedian in a hurry will be back again soon to rehearse with the company, which includes Mr. Lionel Mackinder, Miss Maidie Hope (from the Playhouse), Mr. Barry Lupino, Miss Unity More, Miss Ida Crispi, and Mr. Vernon Watson. It is expected that the revue will be produced in about five weeks.

The incomparable illusionist, Chung Ling Soo, is, after concluding a successful English and Scotch tour, making a welcome appearance at the London Coliseum next week. The marvellous magician will include many novel illusions in his entertaining programme.

New Patents.

This list is specially compiled for "The Era" by Messrs. Rayner and Co., Registered Patent Agents, of 37, Chancery-lane, London, from whom all information relating to patents, designs, trade marks, etc., can be obtained gratuitously.

LATEST PATENT APPLICATIONS.

2,212.—Stanley Weall. Means or method of changing advertisements and presenting same to view. Jan. 27.

2,686.—Henry Charles Le Fre. Dancing clogs. Feb. 1.

2,708.—Henry Birkbeck. Method of and means for escaping from fire, especially applicable to high buildings. Feb. 1.

2,759.—Robert Alexander Briggs. Mechanism for operating tableaux curtains and the like. Feb. 3.

2,959.—John Evans. Announcement for cinema-halls and the like exhibitions. Feb. 5.

3,048.—Siegmund Chiger. Devices for coupling coin-ejectors in change-giving apparatus. Feb. 5.

3,265.—Josef Schmolders. Dress-protecting devices, particularly for use at dances. Feb. 7

4,435.—Charles Gilbert Hall. Mechanical cashier. Feb. 21, 1913.

4,466.—Edward Albert Reed and Herbert Roberts. Amusement devices. Feb. 21, 1913.

4,470.—Charles Smith. Chemical fire extinguisher. Feb. 21, 1913.

SPECIFICATIONS PUBLISHED.

2,232.—Aktiebolaght Lux. Apparatus for lighting and extinguishing gas lights from a distance.

4,396.—Crabb. Illuminating advertising or display apparatus.

3,459.—Allgemeine Elektricitats Ges. Ticket printing and selling apparatus. Feb. 10, 1913.

3,506.—William Goldston. Children's vehicles, hobby-horses, roundabout vehicles, and the like. Feb. 11, 1913.

3,564.—Arnold James Tanner. Ticket deposit box. Feb. 11. 1913.

3,680.—Allgemeine Elektricitats Ges. Apparatus for printing tickets or the like automatically by selectors. Feb. 12, 1913.

3,757.—Gustav Frantz Lyon. Mechanism for successively actuating from a distance a series of levers such as the hammers of musical bells or the like. Feb. 13, 1913.

3,952.—William Ernest Ell. Machines for playing games of skill. Feb. 15, 1913.

2,678.—Barrett. Illusion apparatus for theatrical and other purposes.

12,102.—Beger and Falke. Means for displaying changeable advertisements from captive balloons.

12,130.—Harris. Coin-freeing and change-giving mechanism

19,855.—Graham.—Target apparatus.

2,705.—Norton. Tip-up seats for theatre or other purposes.

8,059.—Rudland. Portable advertising device for street use.

8,710.—Cleverley.—Punches for punching tickets or the like.

9,568.—Leech. Scenery for theatrical representations and the like.

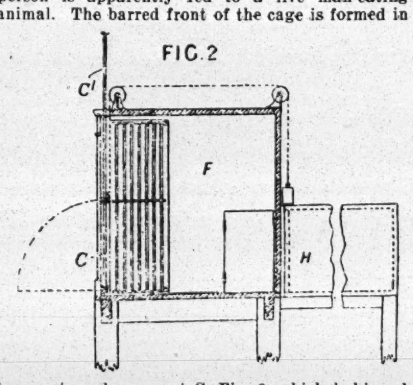
15,008.—Hagedorn. Illusion contrivances for optical stage effects.

25,431.—Woodward. Safety exits for theatres, and the like.

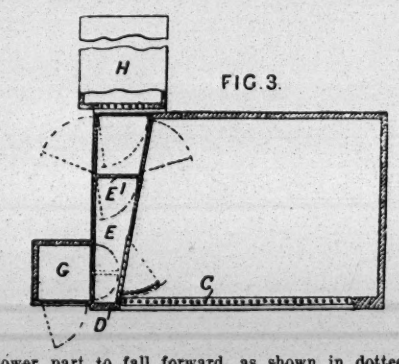
7,075.—Coles. Hat holders for theatres, music halls, and the like.

LATEST PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS.

"THEATRICAL APPLIANCES" (22,651) relates to a cage of the kind described in Specification 14,491/06 for use in a theatrical turn in which a person is apparently fed to a live man-eating animal. The barred front of the cage is formed in

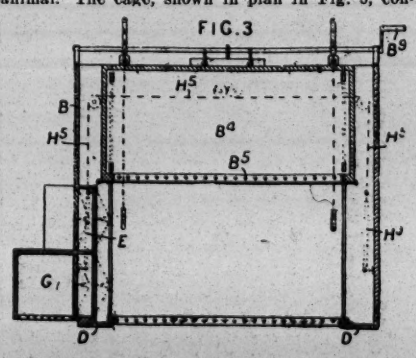


two parts, a lower part C, Fig. 2, which is hinged along its lower edge to the cage, and an upper part C^1 which slides in vertical guides and is large enough to cover the whole of the front of the cage. The upper part normally holds the lower part in place, and when raised allows the



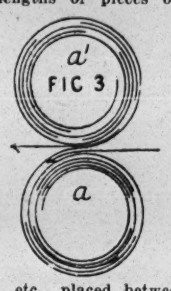
lower part to fall forward, as shown in dotted lines. At each side of the barred front is a pilaster D, Fig. 3, one of which conceals a compartment E formed between a partition F and the side wall of the cage. A door E^1 divides the compartment E into two parts, and other doors open into the cage, and into subsidiary cages G, H.

THEATRICAL APPLIANCES (23,795).—Relates to a cage of the kind described in Specification 22,651/11 for use in a theatrical turn in which a person is apparently fed to a live man-eating animal. The cage, shown in plan in Fig. 3, con-



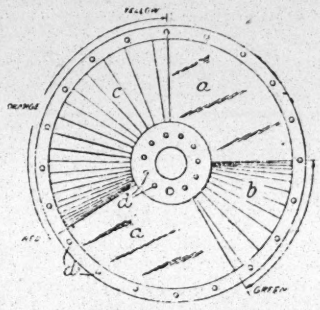
sists of two parts, an outer cage or shell B, and an inner cage B4 which contains the animal and runs on rails within the outer shell. The outer shell is open at the back and has a barred front made in two parts, the upper part of which is pivoted at the top so that it can be swung upwards, and a lower part also pivoted, which is held closed by the upper part. The inner cage is moved backwards or forwards by turning a winch B9, and when in its rearmost position its barred front B5 is covered by shutters or doors, which are closed by springs H3 and are opened by ropes H5. In a modification, the doors open or close automatically as the cage moves forwards or backwards. The cage has a compartment E hidden by a pilaster D, and subsidiary cage G, as described in the above-mentioned specification.

"Advertising" (23,179). A pair of rollers or spindles a, a_1, in peripheral contact with each other, have a web wound upon them in opposite direction so that lengths or pieces of printed or



coloured paper, etc., placed between its convolutions on one roller, are fed out and, if plain lengths, etc., be fed in upon the other roller, the illusion is produced of transformation during passage between the rollers. On insertion the plain paper may actuate a pawl and unlock the take-up roller.

KINEMATOGRAPHIC APPARATUS (24,645).—A revolving colour screen for use in taking kinematograph pictures comprises two coloured portion, b, c. The colours of the portion c, b varies gradually from red to yellow and from green to violet respectively, the area of each colour being adjusted according to the sensitiveness for that



colour of the film employed. The portions b, c are separated by opaque portions a acting as shutters. The screen is made in two parts secured by screws d. For projecting the pictures, a similarly-coloured screen is employed in which the two coloured portions are of equal area.—J. Campbell.

Printed copies of the published specification can be obtained from Messrs. Rayner and Co. at the price of 1s.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 3.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne; Sub Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.—The advent of the London Trocadero Orchestra, under the able banner of Mr. Arthur de Jong, is a great success.

TIVOLI.—Sole Manager, Mr. Harry Stodel.—The Tivoli's new bill last night proved an excellent one. Mr. and Mrs. Finden made their first appearance, and at once made good; the Mojis' Japanese turn is one of the most daring ever seen in the city; Wilson and Waring reappeared, and are as great favourites as ever. The pictures are all interesting.

GRAND.—Manager, Mr. Davis. — With three turns and several new pictures, the weekly change secured a packed house. Miss Alexander proved herself a brilliant pianiste; Farr and Farland, a couple of comedians, were also in great favour; and Stirling and Love secured encores for their smart patter.

DURBAN.—HALL-BY-THE-SEA.—Managing-Director, Mr. Edgar M. Hyman.—Hymack, in his novelty quick-change act, is the star attraction here this week. His turn is one of the brightest and cleverest seen in this country. Marjorie Lawrence made a hit in her two numbers, "I ride the favourite" and "Why do the girls love the Navy." Reynard and Roselia, in a musical act, brought the house down. Reynard possesses a fine tenor voice, and the pretty lady partner's selection on the "harp" was worth going a long distance to hear. The pictures, which were numerous, together with the excellent orchestral selections, under the direction of Jimmy Lowndes, made up a capital programme. Business throughout the week was very brisk. Featured on next week's bill are Manzano and La Mora, Mme. La Mileri, and Forest Tell.

CRITERION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. G. Tucker.—The principal turn here this week is supplied by Mlle. Cecile, Eldred and Car. Their act is unique and sensational. Budd and Clare, comedians, in "Scenes at a Ball," created roars of laughter; the Rurals, in musical comedy, presented a pretty turn.

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 3.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.—Mr. H. B. Irving's season. Manager, Mr. S. Arden Godfrey.—"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" was produced here on Wednesday evening. Mr. Irving's acting in this is considered to be the best thing he has yet done here. A full report will appear next week.

STANDARD THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne; Manager, Mr. Edward Vincent.—"The Private Secretary" was produced here last week, with Mr. Malcolm Tearle in the title-rôle. Mr. Tearle's acting kept the house in roars of laughter, and he was ably assisted by Messrs. W. G. Court (Douglas), E. Burton Seymour (Mr. Cattermole), Fred W. Carter (Mr. Marsland), J. B. Rowe (Gibson, the tailor). Hugo Grahame (Harry), and Mesdames Eva Moes (Edith), Mona O'Dowd (Eva), Moira Creegan (Mrs. Stead), and Dora Nazeby (Miss Ashford).

The Empire has been doing wonderful business of late. This is hardly surprising, when we find such artistes as Madge Temple, Bertie Fowler, and the Strolling Players on one bill, and, in addition, another dozen excellent turns.

ORPHEUM.—Manager, Mr. E. D. Martin.—Miss Lillie Soutter, characteristic comedienne; the Bartz Trio, acrobatic marvels; and Norman Osborne, ventriloquist, were the artistes last week. Some very fine films were also shown.

Colonel Cody, the famous aviator, is lecturing at the Palace, Bath, to-morrow (Thursday) afternoon on "The National Aspect of Aviation," illustrated by his famous bioscope films.

Mr. Edwin Firth and his wife (Miss Katie Norris) are topping the bill at the Grand, Gillingham, this week with their latest sketch, "Changing the Guard." The scene is laid in Whitehall, seven people are in the cast, and a feature of the production is the magnificent Lifeguards' uniforms displayed. It was in this sketch that Mr. Edwin Firth and company achieved such a great success at the re-opening of the Imperial Palace, Canning Town, Christmas week, paying a return visit a week or two back, when they played Mark Melford's "Non-suited" sketch. They have been re-booked for a third visit in August.

AMUSEMENTS IN ROTTERDAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Feb. 23.—The latest production put on the stage of the Grand by Manager Van Eysden has been a new and original comedy by Marcellus Emants, entitled "Zijn Evenmens" ("His Fellow-creature"). The name of Marcellus Emants is one of the most prominent of current Dutch literature, both as a novelist and a dramatist. In the latter capacity he is best known by his two plays, "Geuren" and "Domheidsmacht," both of undoubted merit, the last-mentioned in particular having remained as an accepted work for constant reproduction. "Zijn Evenmens" is undoubtedly much weaker than either of its predecessors, but it is nevertheless worthy of a kindlier judgment than it has met with from both public and Press here.

The action turns on the experiences of a clergyman, who is an optimist with regard to his fellow-creatures, and whose generous and charitable nature renders him powerless to resist any appeal for aid, without even first investigating whether this appeal be founded on real necessity or merely due to extortion or gulling. He receives an unexpected inheritance, and needless to say that a run is made upon his credulity and his purse, to such a degree that he is finally, despite himself, brought to reason, and perforce is obliged to follow the dictates of his wife's calmer yet sounder judgment. He holds firm to his principle of lending a helping hand to his fellow-creatures, but promises to do so with due moderation and insight. The comedy is rather flimsy of construction, and many of the scenes and incidents trivial and lacking in interest, but the main idea is well presented and sustained, and the dialogue for the greater part is pithy and telling. The veteran actor, Alexander Faassen, as the benevolent clergyman had the brunt of the action, and his impersonation was deserving of unstinted praise. A clever bit of character acting was done by Cor. Van der Lugt Melsert, whilst a good word falls to the share of Mrs. Coolingh as the old and faithful maid-of-all-work.

The reorganised Dutch Dramatic Co., of Amsterdam, under the artistic management of Messrs. Heyermans and Verkade, played a trump card with the special engagement of Louis Bouwmeester as star for a limited number of performances. After his success in London, the great Dutch actor has returned here, and has accepted the above-mentioned engagement. He has appeared at the Tivoli Theatre with the Dutch Dramatic Co. in two of the most popular plays of Herman Heyermans, to wit, "Ghetto" and "Schakels" ("Links"). In the former he enacted the rôle of the old Jew, Sichel, and in the latter the part created by him when "Schakels" was first produced, namely Pancras Duif. Of course, both creations were masterpieces of mimic and action, the titanic force of Louis Bouwmeester's genius holding undisputed sway and overtopping the impersonations of the other characters in an astounding manner.

"Het Tooneel" ("The Stage"), under Manager Willem Royaards, announces a revival of the brilliant comedy of Beaumarchais, "Le Barbier de Seville," given, of course, in the Dutch translation. This revival will be followed, it is to be hoped, by a new work of interest.

The success that attended the performances given here at the beginning of the winter season by Director Arthur Gerlach with his opera company of the Elberfeld Staats-Theater induced this gentleman to favour our public with two additional evenings on "off nights" at the Grand last week. Wagner's "Die Walküre" and "Tristan und Isolde" were chosen this time for the programmes respectively. The master's works were carefully interpreted, the orchestra also being efficient and satisfactory. In "Die Walküre" a special eulogy is due to Augusta Müller as Fricka, in a vocal, as well as in a dramatic, sense. Frau Sommerfeld was again a charming Sieglinde, sweet of voice and graceful of bearing and demeanour; whilst Erich Hunold was an impressive Wotan.

Mrs. Julia Cuypers, the leading lady of the Heyermans Verkade Co., has celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of her artistic career. Mrs. Cuypers is a representative actress of the romantic melodramatic school, with marked fire and passion, her range of characters being extensive and varied. One of her recent triumphs has been the heroine in Heyerman's "Allerzielen" ("All Souls' Day"). Her jubilee night was made much of by her admirers to tender her an ovation and offer floral tributes without number.

Harold Bauer, the king of pianists, has delighted our public with a recital last night at the Neet Hall. Words of praise for this genius of the keyboard are superfluous. It is sufficient to say that his playing was, as always, simply perfect and a treat for all lovers of fine music.

Mr. F. H. Payne, for many years managing-director of Olympia, was on Friday elected chairman of Earl's Court, Ltd., the company controlling the famous exhibition buildings and grounds. Mr. Payne has long been regarded as one of the pioneers of entertainment in this country. It was he who brought over Reinhardt's "Miracle," and his successful administration of Olympia and the Holland Park Skating Rink is well known. Apart from his enterprises in the field of entertainment, however, Mr. Payne is managing-director of companies owning large interests in Mexico and Africa, and is also a director of Allsopps' Brewery.

Mr. G. W. Blythe is now completing the eleventh week of lectures on behalf of the Scottish Miners' Federation. He has been appointed instructor on rescue appliances to the Glasgow City Fire Brigade, who have installed one of his live-saving apparatus, also to the Lanarkshire County Council and County Fire Brigades and Hamilton School Board. After giving tests in a chamber filled with sulphur for one hour on each occasion, Mr. Blythe has been publicly thanked and honoured, and on Friday he is to be presented with a testimonial at a smoking concert in Glasgow.

History has a habit of repeating itself, even at the theatre. Mlle. Adeline Genée, it will be remembered, came from Denmark for a few weeks' engagement, and stayed for years. Miss Ida Crispi, who originally came for six weeks, looks like doing the same thing. Her success in "The Yankee Tangle" in 1911 was instantaneous, and now she is making as great a hit with Mr. Fred Farren in "The rag-time goblin man" number in "Everybody's Doing It," the Empire's Revue, which has already beaten world's records in such theatrical fare.

Much of Miss Crispi's success, so far as her extraordinary dancing is concerned, is due to the fact, which she is ready to admit, that she is double-jointed. "That is why I have never been able to get an understudy," she says, with a smile. "But London evidently agrees with me, for since I came here from New York I have gained [x] stones in weight. I can very well do with it, however, for they used to call me the [thin]nest woman on the stage in the United States, although Miss Crispi has been some [time] in America she is English by birth—[Lon]don born in Manchester. She prefers [dan]cing, because she loves dancing so [much]. Miss Crispi made her début in musical comedy [at] the age of the Princess in one of [Geo]rge Edwardes's productions, "Country Girl" com[pany]

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 9.)

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Frank Weathersby.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Frederick Castleman presents "The Blindness of Virtue." The company includes: Mr. Harold Weston, Mr. Harold West, Mr. Alfred Transon, Miss Theresa Osborne, Miss Vida Varrell, Miss Elmie Kemp, Miss Amy Lorraine, Miss Mary Lewin Mannering. Matinée, Thursday, at 2.45. Next week: "Midnight London."

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—P., The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. James Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter present "A Pair of Spectacles." The company includes: Mr. Louis Palgrave, Mr. Chas. Groves, Mr. Harold Maligny, Mr. Henry Harborne, Mr. Lionel Howard, Mr. Norman Carter, Mr. Harry Wright, Mr. Fred Williams, Miss Hilda Glyn, Miss Beatrice Marsden, Miss Maud Ross.

NEATH.

VINT'S NEW HIPPODROME.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. J. Noice; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood present "King of the Gipsies." The company includes: Sydney Bland, S. Leigh Courteney, Gerald Harcourt, Bertram Thomas, Albert Grenville, Jack Fisher, George Inglis, E. A. Peake, Cyril Jarvis, William Hughes, John Rudd, Nina Hardinge, Ethel F. Greene, Ada Roscoe, Josephine Richards. T. M., Mr. Albert Grenville. Next week: "Les Miserables" (pictures).

GNOLL HALL.—P., Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge; Mus. D., Mr. G. M. Butt.—This week (twice nightly): The Stanleys; Slippere, the blind entertainer; Maudie Vera; Silent Tait and Amee, in novelty act; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. George Gray presents "The Fighting Parson"; Muratti Bros., dancers; Victoria Campbell, vocalist. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

NELSON.

GRAND.—L., Mr. W. C. Horner; M., Mr. H. S. Parker.—This week (once nightly): Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Draycott's company in "The Great White Chief." The cast includes: Mr. Percy Follis, Mr. Russell Norrie, Mr. Charles E. Johnson, Mr. Leonard Maitland, Mr. Maurice Love, Mr. Lionel Hardinge, Mr. Fredk. Carr, Mr. Victor Ellerton, Mr. Harry Furniss, Mr. F. Wilson Lowther, Wongatah, Susquenka, Mr. Fred F. Smith, Miss Dorothy Charles, Miss Phyllis Eton, Mrs. Charles Draycott.

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. J. L. Livesey.—This week (twice nightly): Chas. Whittle tops a very good bill

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. The Robert Arthur's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; A. M., Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—The attraction at this house is Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company in the American conception, "Ready Money." Mr. Mark Blow as Jackson Ives, the inventor of the counterfeit notes, is capital, his smooth, cool manner being perfection. Mr. Fred Tooze (Stephen Baird, the owner of the Sky Rocket Mine) has a most exacting part, and gets through some critical situations very creditably. Mr. Douglas Payne's Captain West is another fine study, and the methods of the New York Secret Police in tracing down suspects are ably portrayed. As James E. Morgan, Mr. Aubrey Mather leaves little to be desired; Mr. Cedric Percival is a very convincing James Welch; and other characters are suitably filled by Messrs. L. Baskcomb Ward, Archie Selwyn, Guy C. Buckley, Wilfred Bailey, Sydney Lynn, William Holmes, Frank Hamilton, and Jack Thomas. Miss Olivia Glynn is very sweet and sympathetic as Grace Tyler; and the Misses Helen Langton, Adelaide Tanner, and Dorothea St. Clair Smith fill other parts most capably.

TYNE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; R. M., Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—The pantomime "Old King Cole" continues to be a success, but owing to bookings has now entered on the last fortnight of its run at Newcastle.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Messrs. Alfred Butt and Walter de Frece; M., Mr. T. Gerald Morton.—Miss Marie Studholme is the chief attraction here. Mr. R. G. Hunter is responsible for her visit in Mr. Harry Grattan's latest little comedy, "Her Ladyship." The plot is original, the dialogue crisp and sparkling, and the setting befittingly dainty. In addition to the above attraction, the programme includes "Scenes from Wild Australia" (a thrill from start to finish), the Dorinos, eccentric dancers; J. W. Gallagher, comedian; the Five Maclarens, dancers and musicians; Katie Cutler, character comedienne; Hannah and Voder, in song and dance; the Sisters Jerome, duettists and dancers; and the Bioscope.

PAVILION.—P., The Pavilion, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. W. Parham Wells; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur E. Breakwell. — This week (twice nightly): Alf Gibson, comedian; Nina Gordon, society entertainer; Gustave Barra, eccentric musician; Molly Augarde, singer; Four Rio Bros. in "A Study in Black and White"; Katie, entertainer, assisted by Miss Dorothy Hughes at the piano; Sara Rosebury, in songs and stories; Bros. Obo, comedians; Messrs. Sheldon and Buckley's company in "Before the Dawn." Matinée, Tuesday, 2.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. J. W. Kilgour; A. R. M., Mr. A. Devereux.—This week (twice nightly; matinée, Saturday, 2.30): Percy Honri, in musical phantasy, "Bohemia"; Dorine Sisters and Wood, in singing and dancing act; Hunter and Bob, comedy acrobats; Thorpe and Coe, in playlet, "My Burglar"; Harry Bedford, comedian; Stein Esthor Troupe of acrobats; W. F. Frame, comedian; Hands and Lorenzi, flautist and harpist; and pictures.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. T. W. Rowe; R. M., Mr. E. B. Clarke.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Geo. Black's pantomime, "Cinderella." Company includes: Miss Kitty Upton, Miss Gertie Rex, Miss Annie Cohen, Miss Daisy Melbourne, Mr. Percy Johnson, Mr. Stanley Vandyke, Mr. Bert Earle, Mr. Jack Melville, Mr. H. White, Mr. Horace Horner, Messrs. Firth and Forth, Miss May Gibson. Next week: "The Wild Girl of the Forest."

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—L. & M., Mr. Sidney Cooper.—This week: Messrs. Dan McCaw and Chas. W. Dockwray present "The Middleman." The company includes: Messrs. Chas. W. Dockwray, Julian Cross, Hubert Barwell, Douglas G. Murray, Percy Russell, Wm. Hutchings, Robert Steele, Reginald Dainton, Leslie Nutter, Henry Coleman, George Foreman, George Warren, Misses May St. George, Mary Bartwick, Olive Duncan, Margaret Penson, Delores Fitzgerald, and Vere Baker. Next week, "Man to Man."

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Heyes.—This week (twice nightly): James A. and Herbert B. Jewel, in "Change, or the Haunted Castle"; Carl Muller, the limit in long boots; Eight Model Maids, dancers; Les Nicoletos, equilibrists; Archie Glen, raconteur; Charles Hatch, the c(h)atchy comedian; Royal Merry Four, harmonising vocalists; and pictures.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL. — L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee.—This week (twice nightly): Albert Sember and company in "A Woman's Revenge." Cast includes: Mr. Albert Sember, Mr. Cuthbert Taylor, Mr. Frank Ayrton, Mr. Evan Roland, Mr. Ernest Regent, Mr. Sidney James, Mr. James Best, Mr. Arthur Stannard, Mr. G. Lambert Williams, Miss Lilian Burns, Miss Madge Seymour, Miss Louise Campbell, Miss Jessie Paterson, Miss Mona Holmes. Next week: "The Sleeping Beauty."

BOROUGH THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Black Bros.; R. M., Mr. Percy Gibson; Mus. D., Mr. [illegible] Riddale.—This week (twice nightly): Sma[illegible] and her trained cats and pigeons; Cavalli[illegible] ventriloquist; Zarmo, comedy juggler; [illegible]es.

NORTHWICH.

[illegible]VILION.—P., Messrs. Hamilton and [illegible] Harry T. Cornish; Mus. D., Mr. [illegible]-This week: The Four Huzzar[illegible] vocalists and dancers; Elsie [illegible]k Edwin, comedian; the [illegible] Nolen and Snowden, this[illegible]es.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole M., Mr. Fred Morgan.—This week: Mr. William Greet's company, in "The Sign of the Cross." The company includes: Messrs. H. St. Barde West, Bernard Elliott, Charles Yorke, J. Wetherall, Frank Wood, Harry Jones, Phil H. Ellis, Martin Palmer, Tom Wetherall, J. Newman, H. Roose, Misses. Francis Midgley, Dorothy Lant, Doris Rene, Barbara Thorne, Dorothy Northam, Betty Beaumise, Mary Paget, Kitty Arnold, Grace Courtin, Grace Medcalfe, Muriel Noble, Millie Reeve, Messrs. Walter Fleet, Geo. W. Hulme, R. Chapman, Misses. Florence Bond and Madge Monte. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "The Butterfly on the Wheel."

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; M., Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—This week: Charlie Carro, American comedian; Arthur Slater; siffuist; Frank H. Fox, comedian; Campbell and Brady, novelty entertainers; Violet Romaine, vocalist; Sisters Royce and Sid, vocalists and dancers; Mendel, the blind pianist; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES' PALACE.—M., Mr. R. A. Atkinson.—This week: Wal and Annie Kent, eccentric comedy pair; May Maum, Scotch vocalist; Harry Morris, in musical act; and pictures.

NORWICH ELECTRIC THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. G. F. Allen.—Wragg and Wragg, athletes and swordsmen; Sennikio, Japanese mimic; and pictures.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Howard Finney; Mus. D., Mr. John Armstrong.—A strong cast presents "The Sunshine Girl" this week. Miss Phyllis Dare, graceful and dainty as ever, sings and dances merrily as Delia Dale; in amusingly grotesque "make-up" Miss May Marton in the part of Brenda patters volubly, and sings her numbers with comical effect; Miss Phyllys Le Grand makes a picturesque and winsome figure as Lady Rosabelle, and praise is due to Miss Doris Dean (Marie), Miss Vi Mallison (Miss Molyneux), and Miss Nancy Dale (Miss Grey). With Mr. George Gregory at the head of affairs in the comedy department is a sure sign of mirth, and this volatile comedian keeps matters moving, and laughter pouring forth by his drolleries as Floot; the dry humour of Mr. W. H. Rawlins makes his Commodore Parker a rich piece of fooling; Mr. Frank Hector vocalises pleasantly as Lord Bicester, and acts throughout with commendable vigour and amusing suggestion; Mr. Paul Plunkett (Blundell), Mr. H. A. Henson (Hodson), and Mr. Owen Gassett (Stepneyak) are all excellent; and a bevy of young and charming maidens, superbly dressed, add to the attractiveness

GRAND THEATRE.—M., Mr. Frank Seabrook; Mus. D., Mr. Sydney Twinn.—Mr. Horace Stanley's company in "The 10.30 Down Express" is being warmly welcomed. Mr. Harry Scott maintains the breezy character of Jack O'Malley in worthy style; Mr. Oswald Douglas plays the scoundrelly James Inderwick with a right good understanding of the part; Mr. Arthur Cheevers skilfully delineates the detective, Huntley Mason, and Mr. T. B. Brabazon makes a courtly figure as Cuthbert Lee; Miss Maggie English embodies Bessie Lee with a grace and charm that appeal to all; Miss Rose Beryl as the flighty Letitia Leigh fills the part humorously; Mr. Horace Stanley keeps the fun moving in no uncertain manner as Sam Wagstaffe, and has an able helper in Miss Kate Kilpack, the sprightly Peggy Potts; minor rôles are adequately filled by Miss Hilda Miller, Mr. Wm. Hayward, and Mr. Stanley Field.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Ernest Bridgen; Mus. D., Mr. W. L. Richards.—Continuous laughter fills the house this week at the legitimately funny absurdities of Charles Austin and company in "The Bombshell"; Fred Russell is a pastmaster in the art of ventriloquism, and his comical business with "Coster Joe" adds hugely to the merriment; the splendid vocalism of L'Incognita meets with instant and enthusiastic applause; a wonderful example of patience and perseverance is shown by Torcat, assisted by Mlle. Flor D'Aliza, with his collection of roosters; Phil and Nettie Peters patter and poke fun to the great delight of an appreciative audience; the musical comedietta of Lee and Kingston is keenly relished and enjoyed; while Daisy Sloan, comedienne, and Harry Blake, comedian, are deservedly rewarded for their items.

HIPPODROME.—G. M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Albert C. Duncan; Mus. D., Mr. John Holman.—The delightful and mystic illusions of Carl Hertz, capably assisted by Miss Emelie D'Alton, make him a veritable prince among magicians; that formidable exponent of ju-jitsu, Tarro Myake, is meeting some sturdy opponents this week, and the excitement is intense; an interesting equilibristic entertainment is provided by the Three Stewarts, and a smart acrobatic turn by the Reays calls for praise; Nora and Edith Kebble submit a dainty song and dance; and a bright musical interlude by Lawley and East gains hearty applause; Minnie Paget's concertina solos are well rendered; while Arthur Cartwright's fine baritone voice is a feature of the programme.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—This week: Mr. W. W. Kelly's company in "A Royal Divorce." The company includes: M. Juan Buonaparte, Messrs. R. Eastern Pickering, George A. Brandram, George Howard, T. G. Bailey, W. Robbins, Sam V. Lysons, Edward Longford, Lawton Orme, C. Jackson, P. Morris, J. Rigby, W. O'Connor, W. Reed, Misses Lillian Herries, Clara Earle, Kitty Wickstead, Kathleen Hamilton, Agnes Zambuhl, Ida Fane, Marie Johns, Helen Meadows, Violet Ellicott.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—L., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. J. J. Kelly.—This week: Omega Trio; France and Lillington; and pictures.

OLDHAM.

ROYAL THEATRE.—Oldham Empire Co.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. J. Hulme; S., Mr. A. S. Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Mr Walter Howard presents "The Lifeguardsman." The company includes: Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox, Mr. Charles Whitlock, Miss Elsie Garnham, Mr. Lionel Bute, Mr. Max Wakeman, Mr. Melville Chiswell, Mr. J. G. Maine, Mr. Wilfred Graham, Mr. W. S. Hardy, Mr. George Lawrence, Mr. Edward Grey, Mr. A. E. Shuttleworth, Mr. E. A. Linnecar, Miss Florence Williams, Miss Eileen Gerard, Miss Miriam Pritchett. T. M., Mr. W. S. Hardy. Matinée, Tuesday, at 2.15. Next week: "The King of the Wild West."

GRAND THEATRE. — Oldham Empire Co., G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; M. D., Mr. J. Platt.; A. M., Mr. Harry Kilrow.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie present "Milestones." The company includes: Mr. Campbell Gullan, Mr. Goodwin Nock, Mr. Guy Newall, Mr. Dallas Cairns, Mr. Charles Lascelles, Mr. Evelyn Wickens, Mr. Norman King, Mr. Kenneth Webb, Miss Keith Lytton, Miss Mona Harrison, Miss Gladys Hamilton, Miss Edith Goodall, Miss Murielle Langley, Miss Tonie Edgar-Bruce. T. M., Mr. Goodwin Nock. Next week: "The Hope."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; Licensee and M., Mr. Ernest Dottridge; A. M., Mr. Edmund Sharrocks; Mus.D., Mr. Harry O'Callaghan.—This week (twice nightly): Alexandre and Hughes, musical comedians; Rimmer and Beaumont, vocalists; Lloyd Morgan, comedian; the Milsted-Bell Trio; Mark Leslie dancer; Two Britons, athletes; Dorothy Meade, ballad vocalist; Messrs. Wilson and Crook present "The Twelfth Man"; pictures.

COLOSSEUM.—P., The Dobie Electric Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. William Dobie; Lecturer, Mr. H. Young.—This week: The Five Tritons, instrumentalists; Dora Deley and Bert Ster; Irving and Jasmine, in vaudeville; Del Varne's marionettes, and pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. C. Gaston.—This week: Chas. Gaston vocalist; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co. Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. F. Dixon.—This week: Fred Dixon, humorist; and pictures.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., The Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. G. T. Lucas.—This week: Mr. George Edwardes' company in "Gipsy Love." The company includes: Mr. Peter A. Gawthorne, Mr Norman Greene, Mr. Arthur Brooke, Mr. Louis Bradfield, jun., Mr. Alfred Henri, Mr. Arthur H. Jenner, Mr. Cameron Carr, Mr. Lionel Victor, Miss Mary Ridley, Miss Connie St. Clair, Miss Violet Vivian, Miss Mabel Hirst, Miss Maidie Andrews, Miss Maggie Jarvis. T. M., Mr. Percy J. Purdey.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Geo. Leyton and H. C. Seddon.—This week: Mr. Ernest Legh and company in "David Garrick." Cast includes: Mr. Ernest Legh, Mr. Trent Adams, Miss Doreen Drew, Mr. R. Hollingdale; Mr. Ernest Legh and Miss Doreen Drew, in "The Parson's Proposal"; and pictures.

PAISLEY.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; A. M., Mr. Jack R. Bostock; Mus. D., Mr. Thomas Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): George Formby, comedian; Dort and Leonard, acrobats; Neil and Davis, Scotch comedians; Victor Courtney, the "boots" at the piano; Davenport Brothers and Wynne, comedy conjurers; the Four Astors, American rag-time artistes; Ethel Eden, comedienne and dancer; and pictures.

PEMBROKE DOCK.

WHITE'S PICTURE PALACE.—M., Mr. Alf. Shirley.—This week: Macfadden and Zimmerman, in laughing riot; the Asteroids, musical comedy duo; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

PENRITH.

ALHAMBRA.—P., W. Forrester and Sons; Conductor, Mr. A. Blackburn.—This week: Gertie Gascoyne and her Six Dapper Dandy Girls; Petro and Leon; and pictures.

PERTH.

PERTH THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. J. H. Saville; R. A. M., Mr. Charles Boult.—This week: Royde Répertoire company present, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, "Penelope"; on Thursday and Friday, "Trilby"; and on Saturday, "Nell Gwynne." Company includes: Miss Haidee Gunn, Miss Eve Bates, Mr. Frank Milray, Miss Marie Ramuz, Mr. Francis J. Duguid, Mr. Edgar G. Wood, Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell, Mr. Charles Wiseman, Mr. E. Scott, Mr. William Daunt, Mr. Arthur Fayne, and Mr. Frank Royde.

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Lieut.-Col. J. A. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. A. Lake-Fry.—This week: Mr. Alban B. Limpus's company in "Bella Donna." The company includes: Messrs. E. W. Thomas, Dudley Stuart, W. J. Butler, Hugh Rene, H. Gumpert, Ernest Watts-Tye, Douglas Lewis, Alfred McMahon, Horace Broad, Misses Agnes Knights, Flora Haydon, and Georgina Wynter.

HIPPODROME.—L., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank; M., Mr. F. Hawkins.—This week: Six Sailor Juveniles, in a novel and refined vocal and dancing scena; Olive Marshal, the girl with the illuminated clubs; Tom Yorke, chorus comedian; Sisters Hopedale, in their original act, "Fun in a Laundry"; Lilian Bert, vocalist; the Koncertos, in their original cowboy scena, "Twilight in the Rockies"; and pictures.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—D., Mr. J. M. Glover; A. M., Mr. Allan Attwater.—This week: Mr. Forbes Robertson, with Miss Gertrude Elliott and London company, presents "Hamlet," "The Light That Failed," "Mice and Men," "The Passing of the Third Floor Back," and "The Sacrament of Judas." Cast includes: Mr. Forbes Robertson and Miss Elliott. Next week: Mr. George Dance's company in "Autumn Manœuvres."

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Chas. Austin's comedy, "The Exploits of Parker, P.C." The company includes: Messrs. Will H. Ingram, Chas. Neville, J. Gordon-Mackenzie, Chas. Russell, J. Macintosh, N. Howard, H. Ranson, Percy Parkes, G. Harris, Fred Morris, C. Harley, and Misses Phyllis Orme and Pauline Saunders. M., Mr. J. Henderson. Next week: "Nick Carter, Detective."

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—M., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. G. F. Thompson.—This week: Yuma, the mystery; Eddie Martyn, comedy dancer; Jennie Alexander, comedienne and mimic; the Miles-Stavordale Quintette, mimics; Zendra, equilibrist; the Monkey Music Hall, presented by Maud Rochez; the American Cooke and Three Rotherts, in comedy and dancing; and Phil Ray, patter comedian. Next week: Fred Kitchen and company.

PONTEFRACT.

ALEXANDRA.—L., Mr. George Tankard.—This week (once nightly): Mr. E. L. Garside presents "A Girl's Good Luck." Cast includes: Mr. Charles Adair, Mr. Lionel Scudamore, Mr. Beric Hammersley, Mr. Edwin Leake, Mr. Miller Wilson, Mr. Leslie Vyner, Mr. John Nicholson, Mr. Alfred Shott, Miss Evelyn M. Walton, Miss Winifred Love, Miss Denny Fitzherbert, Miss Nellie Garside. T. M., Mr. Leslie Vyner.

PONTYPRIDD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; M., Mr. Charles Trenchard.—This week: Mr. George Edwardes's company, in "The Count of Luxembourg." The company includes: Mr. Fred Fowler, Mr. Howard V. Cropton, Miss Mary Hesseltine, Mr. Mansell Stringer, Miss Clarice Lockstone, Mr. Barnard Moore, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Sadrene Storri, and Mr. Dutton Nicholls.

LARGE TOWN HALL.—P., Mr. John G. Wood; R. M., Mr. Mason.—This week: Miss Dora Payn, vocalist; and pictures.

WHITE PALACE.—P., The White Palaces, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Albert R. Josty.—This week: Mr. Ethelbert Stanley, elocutionist; and pictures.

PORTH.

PALACE THEATRE.—L., Mr. Will Smithson; M., Mr. J. W. Bynorth.—This week: Mr. Robt. McDonald presents the Gay Gordons' company, which includes Messrs. Reg. Sharland, Rich Teasdale, W. H. Esmond, J. B. Gordon, Geo. Fisher, Eric Ford, John Faning, and E. M. Williams, and the Misses Emily Millon, Edie Martin, Ruby Louis, Nellie Beacon, Rene Ash, and Constance Clive.

PORTSMOUTH.

ROYAL.—Licensee & M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here this week with "Brewster's Millions," Mr. Percy Hutchison playing in his almost inimitable manner the rôle of Monty Brewster, in which he maintains the exuberant humour of the character throughout. A modest sweet Peggy is seen in Miss Elsie Stranack; a captivating Mrs. Dan is played by Miss Lilias Earle; and a bold feminist, Janice Armstrong, is presented by Miss Claire Milvano. Brewster's various friends, Harrison, McLeod, Bragden, Archie Golding, are respectively impersonated by Messrs. Gerald Fitzgerald, Ernest Deans, T. Gordon-Blyth, Henry Hampson. The solicitor, Mr. Grant, is successfully presented by Mr. Chris Bedells, likewise Colonel Drew, by Mr. H. Byott, and the stolid butler, Rawles, by Mr. F. G. Thurstaw. Mr. A. Paynter gives a lively impersonation of Monsieur Bargie. The staging is in every way worthy its high reputation.

KING'S.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—Fred Karno's latest creation, "The Village Sports," is a highly amusing burlesque on rusticity and village life, and affords those energetic comedians, Edgar Cooke (Horace Fotheringill) and Jimmy Russell (Tommy) ample scope for their boisterous humour. A numerous chorus support the performance. Nita Crystal and Geoffrey Saville are the principals in a remarkably smart duologue, "Early Closing Night." Willy Pantzer and his acrobatic company of all sizes execute some astounding feats, concluding their turn with a juvenile boxing bout, to the amusement of the onlookers. Marie Goodwin's droll patter and songs were well received, a laughable burlesque act, "Fighting Against Water," was introduced by Sisi and Fifi. Oil colours, seascapes, and landscapes were painted with lightning rapidity by Vandinoff, assisted by Mlle. Louie. Larola is an expert juggler with funny ways; Stacey and Williams' mirth and humour was enjoyed; and Rose Cabani is a graceful dancer and vocalist.

PRINCE'S.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton.—Mr. and Mrs. Percy Bown's company present "Geoffrey Langdon's Wife (?)" here with every success. The acting of Mr. Percy Bown as the villain, Beverly, was excellent, and Mr. Claude Graveley in the rôle of Jack Stirling, the manly hero was in every way appreciated. Miss Kathleen Magee makes a charming heroine, whilst Messrs. Cliff Deane and Syd Hobson created roars of laughter as Thomas and Charles respectively.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. George Harris.—Miss Zona Vevey, accompanied by Max Erard, is repeating her former success here. At the conclusion of the entertainment by these talented artistes, the applause was abundant and sustained. A most enjoyable musical act was submitted by the Zigeuner Quartette, who included a soprano and three instrumentalists. The Tellenus' performance, which embraced trick cycling, acrobatic, balancing, and somersaults on skates riveted all attention. Other capital turns were Mabel Moss, George Campbell, Cremona, and the pictures, Leslie Harris at the piano, and the Terry Tidries, duplicate comedians.

EMPIRE PALACE.—M. D., Capt. E. H. Warren Wright; S., Mr. W. Pratt.—A stirring Wild West drama holds pride of place in a splendid programme at the above this week. The episode, which is staged by the Continental-American artiste, Gaston Chevallier, and a full London company, gives a vivid idea of cowboy and mining camp life. Sinclair Neil and company, including Mies Alice Miller, pay a return visit with the well-known "Bank Thief"; Bert Weston scores with mirthful numbers; the Sable Three and Searle sing up-to-date ditties and give expert dancing; Selwyn and Willows submit a clever ball-punching exhibition; Amy Clevere, Dan Lawley, and Hartley and Vivienne being other excellent turns.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. J. Alban Newton.—This week: Rutland Barrington's company in "Ways and Means." The cast includes: Mr. Rutland Barrington, Misses Marion Ripley, Delia Drew, Emma Stockley, Olive Wade, Geraldine St. Maur, Isabel Ormonde, Messrs. Eustace Burnaby, Guy Dawson, Arthur Ackerman, Eric Bridgeman, Richard Treve, F. Lee. Thursday, matinée. Next week: Mr. George Dance's company in "Kismet."

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. H. Page; R. M., Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson; A. M., Mr. Albert J. Bolton.—This week: Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson's company in "Little Red Riding Hood." The cast includes: Misses Claire Hastings, Alice Vernon, Olive Young, Little Eva Petrie, Murray, Gale, Myra Douglas, Alice Myres, Gladys Vaughan, Violet Arthur, Messrs. Bert Wyse, Fred Inbert, R. Martin, Jack Jackson, Ted Mate, Nicklin Williams, Cecil H. Raymond. Matinées, Thursday and Saturday.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Broadhead and Son.—This week (twice nightly): Harry Foxwell's drama, "The Gambler." The company includes: Scott Leighton, Dane Clarke, Bertram Damer, Frank H. St. Clair, Frank Caffrey, Edgar Charles, Jack Hancock, Joe Black, Alf Wright, Willis Collins, John Allen, Maisie Hanbury, Jessie Scott, and Emilienne Terry.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Edwin Bush; G. M., Mr. Alan W. Young; Mus. D., Mr. J. L. Dexter.—This week: The Two Bobs, the rag-time kings; the Adas Troupe, gymnasts; Cornalla and Eddie, "Toss 'em and Miss 'em"; the Christie Duo, dancing; Orpheus and "the hall of music"; Leonard and Stevens, in "True Blue"; Gulliver and the doll; Cora Corina, in song scena; Cliff Ryland, jun., comedian; and pictures. Twice nightly and Monday matinée.

KING'S PALACE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. W. J. Boyle.—This week (twice nightly): American rag-time octette; Yamamoto and Koyoshi Troupe, equilibrists; Kate and Tom Major in "After the Overture"; Bob and Jennie Leonards in comedy act; the Three Morleys in "Morley's Stores"; Ruby Maybutt, buck dancer; Harrigan and Holt, in "Reports."

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—P., Mr. Geo. Testo Santé; M., Mr. C. Leslie Dryden.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée 2.30): "Cinderella." The cast includes: Miss Nellie Rose, Miss Lottie Holland, Miss Mayme Savoy, Miss Kearns, Mr. Karl Edwards, Messrs. Cecil Banard and Ru Allen, Mr. George Hyam, Sisters D'Estrail, Messrs. Roylatt and Mack, and Messrs. Dunbar and Vasey.

RAMSGATE.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Sole L. & M., Mr. W. J. Attack.—This week (twice nightly): Lyster, patter comedian; Rohde and Roche, in comedy act, "The Chameleon, the Artist, and It"; Bert Groves, eccentric comedian; the Brothers Lloyd, tight-rope artistes; and pictures.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Bode and Compton.—This week (once nightly): Morton Powell's company in "Two Little Vagabonds." T. M., Mr. Guy Routh. The company includes: Mr. Victor Rae, Mr. Frank Fordham, Mr. Guy Routh, Mr. H. Hesslegrave, Mr. Philip Garry, Mr. Harry Leamar, Mr. Percy Strange, Mr. Francis Amptill, Mr. Timothy Blake, Mr. Johnnie Powell, Mr. Williams, Mr. George Garside, Miss Ethel Kay, Miss Mona Hall, Miss Kate Perowne, Miss Carrie Nino, Miss Dora Diehl, Miss Eva Lumley, and Miss Rossi St. John. Next week: "As Your Hair Grows Whiter."

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Reading Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Jesse Sparrow; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Leake.—This week (twice nightly): Mary Mayfren and George Pickett's company in "The Slave-Runners"; Eddie Comet, patter comedian; Brandt and James, rag-time comedy duo; Joe Almasio and Miss Yamina, juggler and tumbler; the Lightning Vinettos, comedy jugglers; Radie Stuart, comedienne; W. P. Wentley, white Highlander; Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane, comedienne and comedian; and pictures.

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Norman Robinson.—This week (twice nightly): Francis Laidler's company in "The Pride of Byzantia." Cast includes: Mr. J. P. Marsden, Mr. Reg. Matthews, Mr. Arthur White, Mr. James Chippendale, Mr. Cliff Inman, Miss Lucy Murray, Miss Madge Soutter, Miss Jessie Stern, Little Elsie Pennell, Little Mary O'Hara, Miss Edith Coles, Mr. Ralph Morton, Mr. Alfred Clifton, Miss Dorothy Vere. T.M., Mr. Wallace Stranack.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., The Jackson Family; M., Mr. Jas. Jackson, sen.—This week: Frank Melville, baritone vocalist; Arnold Richardson, in humorous sketch, "Ferdie's Ma-in-Law"; Tiny and Mite, capital singers and dancers; Jen Latona, a capital comedienne who accompanies herself on the piano and concertina; Van Der Koors, clever illusionists; Lily Leonhard, soprano vocalist; Mohamed Labas, Arabian juggler and tumbler; and pictures.

PRINGLE'S EMPIRE.—Sole L., Pringle's Picture Palaces, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. M., Mr. Jas. Pringle.—This week: Two Tomboys, in comedy act; Cliff and Rein, in vocal comedy and novelty dancing act; and pictures.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Norman M. Robinson.—This week: Leighton and Lindford, in original gymnastic and dancing act; Christie Mansell, juvenile ballad vocalist; and pictures.

ROTHERHAM.

ROYAL.—P., North of England Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; R. M., Mr. John Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. A. C. Harrison.—This week: Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company in "A Thief in the Night."

HIPPODROME.—P., Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; R. M., Mr. Wm. Pearson; Mus. D., Mr. J. Miller.—This week: Herbert Darnley's company of comedians in "Private Potts," the cast including Mr. Jack Williams; the Four Paldrens, in special novelties, are exceptionally clever; and other artistes are Sandy Powell, Scotch comedian; Miss Lillian Lillette, impersonator; Taree, rag-time bushman; Arthur Lewis, buck dancer; and Les Cycluminas, trick cyclists.

RUGBY.

VINT'S NEW HIPPODROME AND THEATRE.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week: Mr. Fred Granville's company is presenting "At the Mercy of the Mormons." The company includes: Mr. H. P. Sullivan, Mr. James Mailey, Mr. Edwin Davies, Mr. W. O. Rossiter, Mr. Harry Beverley, Mr. John Leahair, Miss Margaret Brinsley, Mr. Forbes Dawtrey, Mr. Ambrose Pinder, Mr. Jerold E. Reed, Miss Alice Maude, Miss Hazel Dent, and Miss Ruby Loncraine.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week: Morton and Elliott, Vesta and Minnie Price, and pictures.

RUNCORN.

PUBLIC HALL.—L., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—This week

proves once more its power to "grip" the house; Mr. Charles Cardow and company revel in the amusing sketch, "The Burglars"; and the programme is contributed to by the Four Rubys, dancers, acrobats, and graceful poseurs; the Three "Its," juvenile specialty dancers; Mr. George Prince, comedian; pictures; Miss Edith Harman, serio-comedienne; and Mr. Ernest Schaaff and company in the smart musical act, "In a Music Store." Mus. D., Mr. J. G. Hahn.

REPERTORY THEATRE.—D., Mr. Orlando Barnett.—This week: "The Interior" and "The Convict on the Hearth" (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday), and "Cupid and the Styx" (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday).

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—M., Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—The Three Irvings are appearing with great success this week in a vocal and dancing scena with special scenery and effects; the Two Exceptions submit a lively comedy sketch, "The Duke and the Girl"; pictures complete.

BOSTOCK'S JUNGLE.—P. M., Mr. Harry Tudor.—This great aggregation of entertainments, including the menagerie, startling exhibitions on the big arena stage, the ever-popular Fun Fair, and other diverting features continue to attract crowds by day and night.

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Cinema Theatres (Midlands), Ltd.; M., Mr. Clifford Womersley; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Page.—This week (first three nights, matinée Wednesday, 2.30): Robert Macdonald and T. B. Young present "The Dollar Princess." Cast includes: Mr. Charles Midgley, Mr. Norman Bowyer, Mr. Austin Green, Mr. Frank Duirs, Mr. Earnest Peirce, Mr. Bert Darrell, Mr. Huntley Gifford, Mr. Donald Gray, Mr. Francis Sawyer, Mr. John Bernard, Mr. Derick Knowles, Miss Margaret Carter, Miss Iris Beresford, Miss Tina Lincoln, Miss Phyllis Desmond, Miss May Lashbrooke, Miss Dorothy Stafford, Miss Mina Goss, Miss Gracie Freeman, Miss Marion Ridding, Miss Margaret Pitts, Miss Marjorie Elliott, Miss Muriel Hynes, Miss Dorothy King, and Miss Wallace-Reville. T. M., Mr. W. A. Seymour.

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Mr. Chas. Barnard; M., Mr. James Chapman; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Hickling.—This week (once nightly): Arthur Hardy's company in "The Speckled Band." T. M., Mr. Martin Jarry. The company includes: Mr. E. Vassall-Vaughan, Miss Joan Marshall, Miss Agnes Marey, Mr. Maurice Drew, Mr. James E. Horstead, Mr. Geo. W. Barnes, Mr. Herbert Bradford, Mr. V. Franklin, Mr. A. King, Mr. Victor Lusk, Mr. H. E. Ainger, Mr. Herbert Bradford, Master Fredk. Reynders, Mr. Gerald Rodgers, and Mr. A. Corney Grain.

EMPIRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. A. G. Guest.—This week: Six Buster Browns, in singing and dancing act; Queena Pless, in character songs and dances; the Wanas, in gymnastic pot-pourri act; the Lenfords, pattering pair; the Three O'Connor Girls, in singing act, introducing club swinging; and pictures. Next week: Herbert Darnley's company of comedians in "Private Potts."

BEARWOOD COLISEUM.—M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. H. Kennedy.—This week: The Heywood Trio, musical entertainers; Ida Dorrie, character comedienne; Brothers Wright, American entertainers; and pictures.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston; Mus. D., Mr. J. Warwick Moore.—This week: Messrs. Alban B. Limpus and Cecile Barclay's company in "The Turning Point." The company includes: Messrs. Rupert Lister, Herbert Rea, Charles Fancourt, F. Owen Chambers, George Barran, Campbell Beaver, A. Mayne, Alec Street, Godfrey May, Alfred Manners, A. Wingood, Misses Cecile Barclay, A. Vansittart, Mary Forrester, and Maud Garth.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Will Murray; A. M., Mr. Fred Mason; Mus. D., Mr. J. Wilde.—This week: Ethel Arden and Geo. Abel in "The Little Stowaway"; Johnson Clarke, ventriloquist; the Four Durhame, musical act; H. Connorton, illusionist; W. A. Harvie, wire act; Rowland, juggler; Chris Baker, comedy merchant; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. Yardley; Mus. D., Mr. J. Southworth. — This week: Erard's Vaudevillians; Lawson and O'Dell, comedy duo; Gene Crowe, minstrel; Lawrence Barclay, comedian; Aimee Roberts, impressionist; Kito and Copeland, equilibrists; Bert Lloyd; and Hall and Earle, acrobats.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. W. H. Lennon.—This week: Dandy Billy and dog; Thornbury, entertainer; Edna Zora and company, in song-scena, assisted by Carl Rosina at the piano; Herbert La Martine, introducing staircase dance; Fields and Fields, entertainers; Ragtime Six, three lads and three lassies, in rag-time songs; Ted Cowan, quaint comedian; the Three Comerfords, acrobats; and pictures.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; B. M., Mr. George Clarkson.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Max Allen's company in "Hindle Wakes." The cast includes: Mr. Norman Clark, Miss Cecile E. Anson, Miss Helena Walbran, Mr. Ernest E. Imeson, Miss Kate Osborne, Mr. Stephen Wentworth, Mr. John Cecil, Miss Madge Trenchard, and Miss Margaret Beck. T. M., Mr. Edwin T. Heys. Next week: The Moody-Manners Opera company.

PIER PAVILION.—L., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Eric Longden.—This week (twice nightly): Alice Raymond and Rag-time Players, in "A Night in Egypt"; Henry Liszt, basso profundo; Fred Evans, burlesque artiste, in "A Dream of Oliver Twist"; C. H. Charlton, conjurer; Johnny Dwyer, comedian; Agnes Tina, mimic; Wilson Hallett, comedian; and pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Closed.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. John W. Coulson.—This week (twice nightly): Frank M. Thorne's company in "The Woman Pays." Cast includes: Mr. Will Beasley, Mr. Frederick Garratt, Mr. Victor Garnet Vayne, Mr. H. C. Lanceley, Mr. J. Fulton Millar, Mr. Charles Arthur, Mr. Arthur Cresswell, Mr. Dunlop Stewart, Mr. Pat Quinn, Mr. H. W. Percival, Mr. Arthur Brownlaw, Mr. A. S. Sale, Miss Hetty Fergusson, Miss Clara Widdicombe, Miss Lillian Bales, Miss May Wright, Mrs. S. Porteous. T. M., Mr. Dunlop Stewart. Next week: "The Man Tempted Me."

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. Edwin Winter; Mus. D., Mr. Jos. Campbell.—This week: Craggs, in comedy sketch, entitled "Billy"; Capt. Taylor's educated animal act, consisting of baboons, monkeys, dogs, and ponies; Dusty Rhodes, comedian; Two St. Johns, in music, humour, and dancing; Gerald Wyatt and Denise Dirome, in sketch, "Go West"; Yost, clay modeller; Les Videos, wonders on wheels, including Leonie, the juvenile marvel; Fred Lincoln, comedian; and pictures.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. Wilfrid Bryant; Asst. M., Mr. Richard H. Taylor.—This week the company includes: Four Camerons, "At the Carnival," a melange of harmony, humour, and dancing; Abel and Wyn and their bulldog Towser, in comedy act, "Selling a Dog"; and pictures.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. James Bainton.—This week: Wylie, the tramp musician, in an act of music and mirth; Ellis Barrieton, in chorus songs; and pictures.

KING'S PICTURES.—M., Mr. Geo. B. Eley.—This week the company includes: Brislee flute and piccolo soloist and entertainer; David H. Parker, comedian; and pictures.

SPENNYMOOR.

ARCADIA.—P., Mr. R. F. Gowland; M., Mr. H. E. Feather.—This week: John Paley, cornet and trumpet virtuoso; the Daintons, in a musical duo; George Battle and Emmie King, in a dramatic episode, "A Woman and a Man"; and pictures.

STAFFORD.

PLAYHOUSE.—L. and M., Mrs. Evelyn Thomas.—This week: T. Arthur Jones' company in "When Other Lips" and "Life's Sweetest Sins." Company includes: Messrs. T. Arthur Jones, Chas. Clifford, Joe Hodson, W. Keriston, G. Elvin, Arthur Ross, Arthur Prescott, Robert Sawin, Arthur A. Felton, Robert Dore, W. J. Coventry, James Keppell, Master Thomas Fletcher, Misses Marie Daver, Jane Watson, Emily Wilson, Ethel Wynn, [illegible] Cuthbert, and Marion Wells.

STANLEY.

NE[illegible] ROYAL.—P., Stanley Theatre Co., L[illegible] Mark H. Lindon.—This week (once nightly): Frank Mayo and company, in sketch, "Two Men," cast including Frank Mayo, Billy Cram, Syd Baker, and Miss Joyce Moore; George Maston, comedian; Tom Taylor, comedian; Maud Lovette, comedienne and male impersonator; Ivan and Ivor, comedians; sketch, "The Bargain," by Frank Mayo and company; Bee Victoria, vocalist; Albert Ashton, character vocalist; Demi and Semi, in drawing-room speciality; Rackly and Albert, equilibrists.

ELITE.—This week (twice nightly): Dana Royal and Co. in "Whizzing the Whirl"; Madge and Alexander, juvenile jesters; Cora Gill and Co., in "An Angel Unawares"; and pictures.

STIRLING.

ARCADE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Newman; M., Mr. W. Anderton; Mus. D., Mr. G. K. Hardie.—This week (twice nightly and matinée Saturday, at 3). —The Three Bucleys, electric novelty; J. W. Warner, Dutch novelty act; Jackson Girls, acrobats and expert wooden shoe dancers; and pictures.

OLYMPIA PALACE THEATRE.—P., Caledonian Cinematograph Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. D. Stratton; Mus. D., Mr. Grafton Tolton.—This week: The Six Juggling Geraldos; the Six Seftons, vocalists and dancers; Two Mermaids, aquatic marvels; and pictures.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — P., St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. McLeod Loader; A. M., Mr. Harry E. Johnson. — This week (three nights): Mr. Charles Locke's company, in "One Life, One Love." The company includes Mr. Arthur T. Ellis, Mr. Polson Turner, Mr. Ernest Yandall, Miss Dora Pass, and Miss Ethel Wensley. The last three nights the O'Mara Opera company appear in "Huguenots," "Tannhäuser," "Rigoletto" (matinée), and "Il Trovatore."

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Barrasford, Sley and Wilmot; A. M., Mr. Leo Weisker.—This week: Mr. William Watson's pantomime "Little Jack Horner." The company includes: The Waldrons (Joe, Etty, and Billy), Miss Mamie Ellis, the Sisters Sinclair, Miss Elsie May, Mr. Wally and Mme. Gilbert, Mr. Franklin Miles, and Mr. J. Hughes.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Wm. Revill.—This week: Mr. George Edwardes's company in "The Count of Luxembourg." The company includes: Messrs. Ralph Roberts, York Lester, Edwin Oxlee, Dundas Walker, Lacy Mills, Ernest Norris, Norman Brown, A. Traile, Alec Johnstone, Ernest Wellesley, R. Graham, Nigel Barrie, Misses Vera Sinclair, Lina Hicks, Elsa Twemlow, Marguerite Vernon, Marguerite Edgley, Irene Crammond, Nancy Mortimer, Eva Herter, Marjorie Gresham, J. Rutter, Mercy June, and Mabel Twemlow.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. John Batty; M., Mr. Walter Batty.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Dot Stephens presents "A Child of the Streets." The company includes: Mr. George Handel, Mr. Arthur Curzon, Mr. Norman H. Tracy, Mr. Valmour Shain, Mr. John Errol, Mr. George H. Hazlehurst, Mr. Hugh Brady, Mr. Lewis Rae, Miss Olga B. Hazlewood, Miss Lily Annesley, Miss Pollie Denville, Little Cora Handel, Miss Dot Stephens. T. M., Mr. George Hazlehurst. Next week: "Two Little Vagabonds."

HIPPODROME.—L. & G. M., Mr. Harry Burns; R. M., Mr. Geo. V. Stainton.—This week (twice nightly); Harry Burns presents "The Forty Thieves." Cast includes: Miss Olive Plant, Miss Minnie D'Aubyn, Miss Mona Vivian, Miss Winnie Barr, Miss Mabel Sancton, Miss Mabel Fenwicke, Mr. Bobbie Walker, Mr. Edwin Garth, Mr. Phillip Renouf, Messrs. Boriski Brothers, Mr. Ruebin Kitchen, Mr. Victor Tyler, Mr. Walter West, and the Four Fedoras.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; M., Mr. William Berson.—This week: Mr. Joe Redfern presents his pantomime of "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Jessie Wilton, Miss Val Gerald, Miss Ada Bellfield, Miss Vanda Rees, Miss Kitty Marston, Messrs. Will Charlton, George Houghton, Walter Amner, Harold Carlyle, and Willie Westwood. Specialities by Harry Firth's Eight Dainty Maids, and Willie Westwood, coon delineator and cane dancer. Mr. W. Fowler conducts the orchestra.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Tom H. Taylor presents the drama, "The Gentleman Jockey." Company includes: Messrs. Harry T. Wood, Annesley Hely, Edwin Ling, Harvey Welton, Alec Wright, Alfred Ames, Grayson Bancroft, Ivor Smith, Percy Boucher, J. Templar Ellis, E. Clarke, Teddy Leonard, and Misses Molly Hackett, Frances J. May, Nellie Knuth, and Doris Ward.

KING'S HALL.—P., Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. C. W. Poole; M., Mr. H. J. Wharton.—This week: Bessie Butt; Vandinoff, lightning artist; Tony Nelson, equilibrist, assisted by Miss Tilley; and pictures.

STROUD.

EMPIRE.—P., City Cinema (Gloucester) Co.—This week (twice nightly, and children's matinée, Saturday, 3).—Mlle. Da Lila; Daisy Hicks, comedienne; Renot, comedian; and pictures.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S THEATRE. — L. and M., Mr. S. F. Davidson; G. M., Mr. Lloyd Townrow; T., Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—Mr. George Dance's company is presenting the musical comedy "A Waltz Dream" here this week, before large audiences. Miss Hilda Guiver as Franzi achieves a triumph with her histrionic powers, taking either the dramatic or the lighter vein with equal ability; Miss Dorothy Moulton is equally successful as the Princess Helena, possessing as she does a winning manner and a cultured voice; Miss Emmeline Orford is splendid as Fifi (the Big Drum); Mr. Frederick Hearne acts on strong lines as Lieut. Niki, the Prince Consort, and is the recipient of great applause for many vocal items, including a duet with Mr. Harry B. Clark (Lieut. Montschi), who also gives a good performance. The production is by no means lacking in humour, which is entrusted to Mr. Will Hindson as Joachim XII., and Mr. Edwin Brett as Count Lothar. In them is found a perfect duet of humour, the house simply ringing with laughter throughout their welcome appearances. Other valuable work comes from Miss Jossett Ellis (Fredrica), Miss Dorothy Waine (Hana), Mr. Arthur Medwin (Max, waiter), and the Viennese Quartette of Dancers. The orchestra and chorus is under the direction of Mr. Herbert Robinson. The piece is splendidly mounted.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton.—Mr. Will H. Glaze's company is performing here in the drama entitled "No Mother to Guide Her." Miss Betty Seymour acquits herself with honours by her portrayal of Nan; Miss Roma Pendrons gives a capital interpretation of Millicent; and Miss Georgie de Lara is splendid as Julia Patterson. Mr. Huntley Gordon proves himself a capable actor as Rev. Tom Pelham; whilst Mr H. Ryland Lee as Bill Bunce, and Mr. Will Glaze as Bob Coleman are by no means behind. Treachery has an able exponent in Mr. Leonard Clarke as Felix Campbell. The remaining rôles are ably sustained.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden.—Mr. George Mozart is making a big hit with his clever burlesque work, each of his items being perfect of its kind. Another extremely popular turn is the sketch entitled "A Man of Spirit," by Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait; the Cabrey Boys contribute some smart and novel dancing; the Rawsons appear in a pleasing musical item; Thora gives his ventriloquial act with complete success; Adam Tomlinson is as popular as ever with his amusing localisms; J. H. Scotland uses an excellent baritone voice to advantage; and George Rae, Scotch comedian, and the Oran Trio of Gymnasts, both gave good turns on their own lines.

AVENUE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; B. M., Mr. J. Clement Padden.—The Great Santel, American athlete, is giving a capital exhibition of strength here, and Percy Wearmouth, blind musician, pleases his audiences with his singing and playing.

PALACE THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. A. G. Hamilton.—The Four Casinos are giving a really smart wooden shoe dancing demonstration here; Cliff Berzac's Sea Lions provide an interesting and amusing turn; and King Luis and Partner receive much applause for their clever acrobatic act.

SWANSEA.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & L., Mr. William Coutts; G. M., Mr. Hal Cummings; A. M., Mr. Chas. McNamara. — This week (once nightly): Mr. Evelyn A'Dell's company in "The Old Home." Cast includes: Mr. Fred L. Connyngham, Miss Amy Dalby, Mr. Evelyn A'Dell, Miss Harriette Loydall, Mr. Cliffe H. Astley, Mr. Reginald Brown, Mr. Fred Stone, Miss Ethel Ashleigh, Mr. John Ernest, Mr. Harry Dean, Mr. Tom Baker, and Mr. Jack Turner. Next week: "The Thief-Catcher."

GRAND.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. T. Byrne.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2.30): George Dance's company in "The Whip." Cast includes: Mr. Bert Golday, Mr. Charles V. Sandford, Mr. Frank Powell, Mr. Ernest James, Mr. George P. Polson, Mr. Frank Henry, Mr. H. Campbell, Mr. Dennis Renton, Mr. Lawrence J. Lawrence, Mr. Arthur Nicholas, Miss Naomi Neilson, Miss Barbara Allen, Miss Julie Kennard, Miss Violet Roberts, Miss Violet Lindsay, Miss Louie Brett, Miss Edna Earle, Mr. Lesie Jarvis, Miss Agnes Hewett, Miss Mabel Milne, Miss P. Dickinson, Mr. Robert Shenford, Mr. R. Austin, Mr. Robert H. Nash, Mr. Fred Elkington, and Mr. Henry Walker. Next week: Swansea Operatic Society.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. G. H. Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): Victoria Monks, in "The Vicky glide"; Archie Naish, entertainer; Delevines, in "The Wicked Witch's Wish"; Mme. Lucie Gillispie and Miss Kathleen Kingston, vocalists; Billy French, dancer; Julian Mack, talking dame; Daunton-Shaw Troupe of cyclists.

SWINDON.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Alfred Manners. —This week: Mr. and Mrs. John Walters present "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Misses Dorothy Veitch, Freda Plowden, Nell Rene, Elsie Kedwards, Kittie Liske, Esme Ellesmere, Annie Carling, Doris Somerset, the Marius Low Dancing Girls, the Brothers Aston, Baby Beaty, Messrs. Harry Murr, Harry Rousby, Walter Lennard, the Stevanos, Edwin Ludlow, Tom Hulme, Dan Belmore, Miss Mollie Carling, Miss Sylvia Seville, Mr. Billy Sands, Mr. Dan Best, Miss Dorothy Ashby, and Miss Jessie Hardacre. Next week: "The Barrier."

TONYPANDY.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. Will Stone; G. M., Mr. Edgar Harper.—This week: Lalla Selbini, spectacular illusionist; Jock Whiteford, Scotch comedian; Brothers Ford, in singing and dancing act; the Wallers, comedy duo; and Lomax and Cissie, chair jumping experts.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and M. D., Mr. W. H. Mortimer; S., Mr. Arthur Pearse.—This week "As Your Hair Grows Whiter," is being staged, and next week "The Old Home" will be put on. As an experiment for these two weeks only the two-houses-a-night system has been adopted, with reduced prices.

PAVILION.—P., The Torquay Town Council; M., Mr. Austin M. Wilshere.—The Municipal Orchestra, under Mr. Basil Hindenberg, is this week augmented by Miss Nellie Ganthony (entertainer) and Mr. Robert Chignell (baritone).

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. Bolas.—This week: Mr. Billy Marsden (comedian); and pictures.

TREHERBERT.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. C. W. Poole; R. M., Mr. W. A. Totten.—This week: Mr. J. Pitt-Hardacre's company, in "East Lynne." The company includes: Messrs. J. Pitt-Hardacre, Joe Rowland, John J. Hooker, Fred Dobell, F. T. Carroll, Paul Beresford, George Pammer, Rowe Jocelyn, C. S. Gordon, Misses Addie Adair, Elsie Attwood, Ida Deller, Viva Bareham, Marjorie Mumford, Bessie Rignold, and Little Mignon Esric (child actress).

WAKEFIELD.

OPERA HOUSE. — P., Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—This week: Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie present "Milestones." The cast includes: Mr. Wilfrid Caithness, Mr. Wilfred Eaton, Mr. Fernley Bisshopp, Mr. C. Probyn Dighton, Mr. B. M. Hallward, Mr. Charles Field, Mr. Bert Rouen, Mr. George Hewetson, Miss Nellie Griffin, Miss Lynn Fontanne, Miss Mary Lincoln, Miss Bertha Wilkinson, Miss Alice M. Maude, and Miss Violet Gibbs. T. M., Mr. E. Taylor Platt.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Sherwood and Co.—This week (twice nightly): Captain Fred Woodward's sea lions; Ethel Brailsford, vocalist; Two Canadians, instrumentalists; Leo Fields, comedian; J. Mack, comedian and animal mimic; Tom E. Hood, comedian; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Sydney Tolfree; A. M., Mr. Harry Heath.—This week (twice nightly): Six Gordons, in "At the Terminus"; the Brentwoods, entertainers; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.45.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. H. Dunnill.—This week (twice nightly): The Hewson Trio, vocalists and dancers; W. H. Gay, concertina soloist; and pictures. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at 3.

WELLINGBOROUGH.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. W. F. J. Hewitt; R. M., Mr. Joseph Baron.—This week (twice nightly): On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Chas. Locke presents "A Blind Girl's Love." Cast includes: Mr. George Steel, Mr. Fred Morris, Miss Adeline Raby, Miss Hettie Senior, Miss Issa Steel, Mr. Elton Morgan, Miss Flo Norman, Mr. Edwin Turner, Mr. Erne Turner, and Mr. Artie Francis. T. M., Mr. George Steel.

WEST BROMWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. R. Nightingale and Montague Beaudyn; Licensee, Mr. R. Nightingale; G. M., Mr. Stanley S. Gordon.—This week (twice nightly): "That Woman from France." Cast includes: Mr. Stanley S. Gordon, Mr. Henry Parr, Mr. Collin F. Heather, Mr. Billy Sherlock, Mr. Sidney Clewlow, Mr. Tom Arkinstall, Mr. Rass Challis, Miss Kate Froude, Miss Gertrude Vickers, Miss Ada Dempster, and Miss Nina Vaughton. T. M., Mr. Stanley S. Gordon.

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA.

NEW PALACE.—P., Mr. Matt Raymond; A. M., Mr. H. G. Griffin.—This week: Marjorie Bakes, songs at the piano; Samamoto, equilibrist; Gordon Stretton, artistic coon; Harry Anderson, vocalist; Hettie Gould, soprano; Joseph Adelmann Family, in (a) "Old Nuremberg," a musical scena, (b) xylophone and tympanino virtuosity; Morice and Rolfe, musical comedy duo; Chas. Ingle and Harry Brett's company, in "The Goose with the Golden Eggs."

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. J. W. Seaward.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. F. Marriott-Watson and James Ussher present "The Man Tempted Me." The company includes: Mr. Aubrey Norton, Mr. Dick Seddon, Mr. Juan D'Alberti, Mr. Geo. Tempest, Mr. F. Marriott-Watson, Mr. Jesse Ablett, Mr. Maurice Clifton, Mr. Anthony Forde, Mr. Richard Newman, Mr. John Raymond, Mr. Bert Chaffer, Mr. Eric Mortimer, Miss Fay Garnet-Vayne, Miss Phyllida Rushby, Miss Ada Gower, Miss Florence E. Florence. T. M., Mr. F. Marriott-Watson.

EMPIRE.—G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton Smurthwaite; Mus. D., Mr. Horace Marshall.—This week: Louis Meyer presents his own company in "The Glad Eye." Company includes: Messrs. Sam Wilkinson, Fredk. Meads, F. Clive Ross, Tom Tindall, Carl W. Lindsey, Reginald Maurice, Frank W. Ward, Maurice Winter, Ernest Gray, Misses Ethel Percival, Esther Whitehouse, Rhoda Beresford, and Laura Flockton. Pictures shown at 7.30—8.

PALACE.—L., Mr. W. G. Alderson; M., Mr. W. G. Clippen; Mus. D., Mr. S. Grahame.—This week: The Chymes, comedy duo, and the Herbert Trio of harmonising duettists; and pictures.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Albany Ward; M., Mr. F. Adderley.—This week: Sarntharler Troupe, Tyrolean vocalists and dancers; Sophie Knight, soprano vocalist; Harry Herd, comedian; Frederic Adderley, elocutionist; and pictures.

WHITEHAVEN.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Will Gibson; Con., Mr. Fred Merryman.—This week: Venda and Betey, juvenile song and dance artistes; Texas Bill, in cowboy's pastimes; and pictures.

PICTURE PALACE.—L., Mr. V. Branford; A. M., Mr. J. T. Hurst.—This week: The Morton Comedy Duo; Lenardo, juggler and rag-time eccentric; and pictures.

ST. JAMES' ELECTRIC THEATRE.—S., Mr. Victor Halliwell.—This week: W. J. Webb and Edna Branston, in song scena; Gus Lindsay, Scotch comedian; Eglen and Percival, in military song-scena; and pictures.

WIDNES.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—L., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—This week (twice nightly): Dacre and Lynton and their grand organ, in musical scena, "The Tenor and Burglar"; Harry Vardon, ventriloquist; Sisters Lambert, vocalists and dancers; the Araluz, acrobats; and pictures.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—P. and M.s, The Wigan Entertainment Co., Ltd.—This week (once nightly), Mr. George Dance presents "A Waltz Dream." The company includes: J. Noel Leyland, Fred Lyne, Geo. F. Burdett, John R. Val, Richard Keith, H. E. Neville, Joseph R. Cunningham, Reginald P. Rutter, Mabel Graham, Marion Broom, Rene Glynn, Barbara Lea, Daisy Yule, Nellie Palmer, Mabel St. Clair, Mavis Shaw, Kathleen Brett, Violet Hope, Jessie Bevan. T. M., Mr. Victor Forsythe. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Chocolate Soldier."

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., The Wigan Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Mus. D., Mr. H. B. Levy.—This week (twice nightly): Mr and Mrs. H. B. Levy present "The House That Jack Built." The company includes: Miss Evelyn Major, Mr. J. Harrison, Mr. Will Judge, Little Cluley, Darby and McClester, Miss Peggy McDonnel, Miss Gertie Innes, Gwennie Vaugham, Monte Christo, Mr. Johns, Miss Gertrude Orchard. Matinées, Monday and Saturday, at 2.30.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—G. M., Mr. F. G. Kimberley; Mus. D., Mr. H. Bradley.—This week (once nightly): Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Millane present "A White Slave." The company includes: Mr. Joseph Millane, Mr. J. O. Stewart, Mr. Edwin Maydew, Mr. Geo. Porteous, Mr. Oliver Seymour, Mr. William Passmore, Mr. Oswald Peters, Mr. A. Williams, Mr. Arthur Ross, Mr. Frank Evans, Mr. James Revill, Mr. John Miller, Mr. Fred James, Mr. Ernest Dutton, Mr. William Walsh, Miss Olga Jefferson, Miss V. St. Laurence, Miss Mabel Rose, T. M., Mr. E. Teley.

EMPIRE.—Sole L., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. H. Ketteman. — This week (twice nightly): Le Roy, Talma and Bosco, magicians; Melt and Bray, comedians; Lil Sprightly, comedienne; Two Albions, duettists; John and Lilian Grand, vocalists; Carmona, in comedy act; Kenneth Lyle, quartette; and pictures.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Arthur Carlton.—This week (twice nightly): Chung Ling Soo, conjurer, assisted by Miss Suee Seen; Arthur Stevens, comedian; Mlle. Marjutti, in "From Demon to Fairy Land"; Martine Trio, eccentric acrobatic act; Gladys and Alber, in comedy act; Hugh Ogilvie, character comedian; and Yazo, violinist.

WORDSLEY.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—L., B. Kennedy; M., Mr. A. Bayley.—This week: Charles Drew, comedian; Baby Franklin, child comedienne; and pictures.

WORKINGTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Morris Maud.—This week: "The Mormon and the Maid," by Ivan Patrick Gore. The company includes: Messrs. Arthur L. Read, Albert E. Bannister, Will White, Victor Du'Cane, Arthur Lenfrere, George Ross, and Mesdames Greta Drury, Florence McInnes, Gipsy Alexander, and Winifred Maude.

WORKSOP.

KING'S THEATRE.—L., Messrs. C. E. Clayton and F. M. Thorne; R. M., Mr. Frank M. Thorne. —Mrs. F. Wybert Clive's company is presenting "The Outcast of the Family" for the last three nights of the week. The cast comprises: Messrs. F. Wybert Clive, Theo Charlton, H. C. Ward, Tom Roydon, Fred Luard, L. Graham-Hamlyn, Herbert Reed, M. Platting, N. Horton, Mesdames Lily Lewis, E. Melville, Addie Burrows, Freda Beckett. Next week, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday: Mr. Geo. Edwardes's "Merry Widow" company. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "What Happened to Jones."

ROYAL ELECTRIC THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. A. Gibson.—This week: Sam Eve's Trio, ball punchers and athletes; and pictures.

WORTHING.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. C. Adolf Seebold; Mus. D., Mr. Karl Seebold.—This week (first three evenings): "Doormats," under the control of Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter. Cast includes: Messrs. Pennington-Gush, Percy Marshall, H. Stuart Dennison, and the Misses Deborah Volar, Lucy Beaumont, and Julia Birton. The comedy was preceded by the Entertainers. During the latter part of the week Miss Florence Glossop-Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier and company will present Shakespearean plays, those chosen including "Hamlet," "Much Ado About Nothing," "Twelfth Night," and "The Merry Wives of Windsor."

YNYSHIR.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—L., Messrs. Pooles, Ltd.; M., Mr. Fred Terry; Mus. D., Miss M. Gunter.—This week: The Four Colonial Boys; Alice Gill, vocalist; and pictures.

YORK.

ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. P. Hutchison; B. M., Mr. E. Silverthorne; C., Mr. J. Pelzer.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "Kismet." The company includes: Mr. James Hughes, Mr. Fred Gage, Mr. Joseph Lynch, Mr. Arthur Mann, Mr. C. Hart, Mr. Norman St. George, Mr. Val Gulley, Mr. Frank Lester, Mr. H. M. Holles, Mr. Riddell Robinson, Miss Dorothy Whitaker, Miss Mara Collings, Miss Flo Sewell, Misses Louie May and Enid South, Mr. Robert Gray, Mr. Cyril Griffiths, Mr. Jay Ellis, Mr. Ernest Miller, Mr. Leonard Mavis, Mr. Jack Kelly, Mr. H. Barber, Mr. Chung Lang, Mr. Philip Sefton, Miss Rena Challis, Miss Marion Hunt, Miss Madeline Rees. T. M., Mr. Charles Road-Night. Matinée, Saturday, at 2. Next week: "The Manxman."

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Peacock; C., Mr. F. Kell.—This week (twice nightly, and matinée Saturday, 2.30): Harry Elliston presents "The Babes in the Wood." Cast includes: Miss Mabel Osborn, Miss Mora Hersee, the Four Minims, Miss Marie May, Miss Clarice Handel, Miss Susie, Miss Vio, Mr. Dan Lyndon, Mr. Harry Elliston, August and September, Miss Kathleen Raymond, Miss M. Seymour, Miss Gwennie Boyce, Miss Elsie Mayse, Miss Phyllis Price, Miss Nancy Dawn, Miss Pearl Lester, Miss Masie Hart, Miss Wilton, Miss Nellie Seymour, Miss Rosie May, and Miss M. Yates.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee," May 15, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—"Star."

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Mr. James R. Waters opened Jan. 14 in Cape Town for the Hyman Tour, and made a big hit.

The theatregoers of Mount Gambier, in South Australia, have been on strike (writes the Sydney correspondent of the "Daily Mail"). The management of a travelling company demanded 2s. for admission. The visitors did not propose to pay more than 1s., and after a hasty consultation outside the entrance formed a "theatregoers' union." Pickets were stationed, and within a few minutes 278 people—practically all who were there—had agreed not to pay the 2s. The manager appeared at the doorway and refused to make the required reduction. "I'll give you till I count twenty," said the newly-elected president of the newest union, "and after that our price will be 6d. instead of 1s." He counted slowly to nine, and then the manager capitulated. The strike was declared at an end, the quondam strikers trooped into the hall, and the union was dissolved after an existence of about twenty minutes.

SCENIC ADVERTISEMENTS.

CONTRACTORS.

FILM GOSSIP.

"The God of Gold."

Released by the Selig Polyscope Co. on March 9, the story of this dramatic film is as follows: Five young men, hopeful and glorying in their strength, begin buckling on the armour of the workaday world, and outline their ambitions at the stag dinner. The artist is for creative things; the doctor is aflame for science: the soldier observes the glories of conquest; the hardy, wholesome farmer observes the advantages of useful life in supplying the world with substances, but the financier tells how he will surpass them all in the accumulation of gold. The picture follows his feverish ambition as he forgets wife and family and soils the escutcheon of an honoured name with all the joy in life, subordinated to mere grovelling after gold. He loses family and friends and grows more mean and miserly, until at last he finds himself in age utterly alone, save for the valet he has schooled in his own mould. As he dreams alone by his fire he sees the group of early friends, and sees their success in the higher things in life. It so moves his conscience that he flings his wealth into the fire and falls back dead. Then his miserly valet rushes in, and, snatching the remnants of a wasted life from the flames, sneaks away, leaving the dead unmourned. 1,016ft.

"Sauce for the Goose."

This capital comic, to be released on March 12 by Pathé Frères, Ltd., deals with the adventures of one, Wiffles, who, receiving an invitation to a jolly little "kick-up," tells his wife that his aunt is dying, in order that he may attend the festivities. The better half, however, sees through the little game, and inserts between the leaves of the time-table a letter written by herself, but supposed to come from an admirer anxious for some sign of affection in return. Wiffles finds the note at the station and falls straightway into the trap. He abandons all thought of the jollification, and, returning home, he waits in the vicinity of his house until nightfall, when he takes up his station beneath his wife's window, pistol in hand. At the end of an hour spent in endeavouring to keep his teeth from chattering with the cold, he is rewarded by seeing a dark shadow. He follows it, and comes upon his maidservant in the arms of the grocer's man! With an angry warning to the two culprits Wiffles returns to his post, where he remains until morning, half-frozen and tired to death. At dawn he seeks refuge in the drawing-room, and endeavours to thaw his frozen limbs beneath a pile of cushions. His wife, discovering him in this comfortless position an hour or so later, then takes pity upon him, and, disclosing the part she played in his punishment, obtains a promise of better behaviour in the future. 798ft.

"Mirth and Mystery."

To be released on March 9 by the Urbanora Co., this clever trick film should prove very popular. A conjurer and his pretty assistant make their bow to the audience. Suddenly their heads, becoming twice the usual size, commence to dance around, fitting on to each other's bodies in a marvellous manner. The lady then makes a pie; when she lifts the crust a live rabbit is in the basin! She pipes to the little animal, which immediately assumes enormous proportions, and, raising on his hind legs, dances to the jig. Clever tricks with knots follow, and a plaster figure in a bathing dress is brought to life by the magic pipes, and diving to the floor is smashed to atoms. This is followed by other tricks more wonderful still, until the conjurers again make their bow and disappear. 445ft.

"The Lakes of Salzburg."

This is an interesting and finely pictured scenic picture to be released by the Gaumont Co. on March 15. The subject is composed of the southern part of the country of Salzburg, in Austria, and its beautiful lakes. Starting from the picturesque village of Ebensee, at the lower extremity of Lake Gmunden, we make our way by boat to the Château of Ort, which is built on an island. Quite a different type of natural beauty is presented by the Lake of Hallstadt, which, lost in the mountains, presents a wild and melancholy aspect. The little town of Hallstadt is as curious to the tourist as it is pleasing, and the film as a whole is admirable. 295ft.

"His Mother's Hope."

To be released by Edison's on March 12, this film tells the story entwined round a mother's hopes and the loss of her child, a lad of twelve, who, wandering by himself, disappears. Time goes on, and at last the mother dies. There is a row in a gipsy camp, as the result of which a youth is turned adrift, thus losing the home into which he wandered years before. Eventually he becomes the father of a happy home. Happiness and small prosperity are but momentary, for in the wayward flight of time reverses befall him, and the merciless fangs of starvation have already begun to gnaw. In desperation he enters the home of a wealthy gentleman, who, in the early hours of the morn, is seated by the fireside, thinking, perhaps, of the hope of yesterday. Hearing a strange noise he turns, and, crouching on the floor in abject fear, is the despicable form of a thief. In a climatic situation the apparition of his wife appears. The hand of justice is replaced by that of clemency, and the intruder is allowed to go free. A strong resemblance in his face, however, causes him to follow, and as he does the dawn of hope begins to brighten, and in a strong scene the story terminates with the gratification of "His mother's hope." 1,000ft.

Leicester Picture Houses.

At the Picture House a most interesting series of pictures showing the construction of the Panama Canal are the prominent features this week. Other good ones are "A guilty conscience," "Dupin visits Marseilles," "A doctor for an hour," "Two souls," and "The line of peril."

At the Floral Hall Picture Theatre, "A canine Sherlock Holmes," "The line of peril," "An amateur cowboy," "Billy, boy," "A doctor for an hour," "Michael McShane, matchmaker," and others are included in a good bill of fare.

At the Grand Electric Palace the leading pictures in the usual varied assortment include: "Lorna Doone" (exclusive), "Bob's deception," "The problem of aviation," "Wrongfully accused," "Tim," "Poet and peasant," "A white man's way," etc.

New Picture House at Bath.

For a long time past rumour has been abroad that a fourth picture house was to be built at Bath in the new artisan-dwelling neighbourhood of Oldfield Park West, which taps a population of nearly 20,000 people, and now we learn [illegible] are drawn and tenders for the building [illegible]en invited.

[illegible]rables" at Bath.

[illegible]nt of the Vaudeville Electric [illegible]ve this week taken the large [illegible]bly Rooms to present the [illegible]play, "Les Misérables," [illegible] that record crowds will

The Picture House at Nottingham.

The Provincial Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd., are making a special feature this week of an interesting and instructive film showing the wonderful engineering feats accomplished at the Panama Canal. Thrills are given in two dramatic pictures, entitled "Two souls" and "The girl in the barracks," while the comedy side receives full justice in "A guilty conscience," "Unexpected review," and "Dupin visits Marseilles."

Mme. Walters' Orchestra.

At the popular Walpole Picture Palace, Ealing, the selections of the augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mme. Walters, are always greatly appreciated. At a special entertainment recently given in aid of the Ealing Boy Scouts the enjoyment of the evening was greatly enhanced by the contributions of her fine band, and the accomplished directress was presented with a beautiful bouquet.

Under the auspices of the Islington Charities Committee an entertainment was given on Friday, Feb. 21, at the Ideal Cinema, Bowman's-place, Holloway, to 750 poor children of the neighbourhood. Mr. P. M. Beck, the proprietor, on being approached by the committee, not only agreed to give the picture entertainment, but to provide the boys and girls with buns and oranges. Amongst those present were H.H. Princess Bariatinsky (the well-known Russian actress, Mme. Lydia Yavorska), chairman of the Ladies' Committee, who was accompanied by Mr. M. A. Reinitz (a vice-president) and the Mayoress of Islington, Mrs. G. S. Elliott. A dozen separate sets of pictures were presented, seven of them being coloured. There were scenes from Nature, comic pictures, and pantomime. Miss Winifred Allan also contributed a couple of songs. Towards the close of the entertainment Councillor H. Trounce moved a vote of thanks to H.H. Princess Bariatinsky and the Mayoress for their attendance, and to Mr. P. M. Beck for having provided so excellent an entertainment for the children. Councillor H. Butcher, in seconding the proposal, mentioned the services rendered by Mr. Kendall, the manager, Mr. Hitching, the assistant-manager, and the staff. Mr. Beck in reply said that to amuse the children and brighten their lives was to him a labour of love, and he was delighted to be associated with the Islington Charities Committee in their noble work for suffering humanity. Subsequently Mr. and Mrs. Beck entertained the members of the committee to tea.

Our Scarborough correspondent writes:—"The licensing justices assembled at Bicester Sessions decided it was necessary to impose a condition on all the cinematograph licences that 'no children under twelve years of age be admitted unless accompanied by an adult over sixteen years of age.' Although protests were made, the justices did not relax the restrictions in any of the applications."

AN ENTERPRISING MANAGER.

Mr. W. C. Burns, the long-experienced general-manager and "road show pilot," who for some time acted in the former capacity at the Curzon Hall, Birmingham, and has been manager since the inauguration of Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes' new venture, the Co-operative Hall, Crewe, has arranged to pilot through England, commencing at Easter, a circus and jungle enterprise entirely new to the country. Mr. Burns has successfully managed theatrical, vaudeville, road shows, picture palaces, &c., and though by no means an old man, claims that he is the only one now left possessing such versatility. Mr. Burns maintains that his extraordinary vitality and powers of endurance are due to his abstenance from alcohol, and the fact that he has been a non-smoker all his life. Mr. Burns deplores the large number of managers in the picture world who offer to "work" from anything almost up to £2 weekly, a state of things which he thinks ought to be remedied by a defence association, which would admit only thoroughly experienced and capable men. There are, he adds, other grievances already existing, and those which are bound to come with the growth of the picture industry.

Tenders are wanted for open-air entertainments on two pitches on Ramsgate Sands for season 1913, Whitsun onwards, on the basis of 50 per cent. shares. Persons tendering must provide own stage and dressing-room accommodation, committee supplying seating. No printed form is required. Tenders can be sent up to March 16, to Councillor H. C. Child, chairman, Albion House, Ramsgate.

Tenders are invited by the municipality of Brighton for the hire of an entertainment stand on the beach opposite Cannon-place, and an entertainment stand on the Madeira-drive for the season 1913. Conditions and forms of tender may be obtained on application to the Town Hall, Brighton, to Mr. Hugh Talbot, town clerk.

Miss Florence Irving, the American comedienne, wishes to say that she is not the Miss Florence Irving referred to by the "Umpire" of the 9th ult. in its report of the vitriol-throwing case at Oxford-road, Kilburn. As a matter of fact, she has been indisposed for some time, and, pending her return to work, no person has any authority to make use of her name, nor is she connected with any member of the profession.

The unfortunate boiler explosion which occurred on the South Parade Pier, Southsea, on Thursday the 20th, when the attendant, Tom Healan, sustained terrible injuries to his head, etc., had its sequel in his death at two o'clock on Saturday morning last at the Royal Portsmouth Hospital.

At the Grand, Gillingham, this week, Mr. W. T. Beattie's programme includes Edwin Firth and company in "Changing Guard"; Joe Archer, comedian; Nat Travers, comedian; Katie Weston, comedienne and dancer; and Eddie Oliver, mimic and sifflеur.

Miss Kitty Colyer is scoring at Finsbury Park Empire in "I do like you, Susie, in your best Sunday clothes," and her sensational dance has the quality of real smartness, alertness, and grace

For his Good Friday evening concert at the London Coliseum, Mr. Alfred Dove, the musical-director at that Theatre, has arranged for a performance of "Behind the Night-Light" (the "Hibbertoo" and other animals invented by Joan Maude, aged three), which will be recited by Miss Nancy Price (Joan Maude's mother), with incidental music by Mme. Liza Lehmann. The composer will herself accompany Miss Price. The first performance of Joan Maude's imaginings set to music recently created considerable interest, and it is in response to an almost universal demand from those unable to hear the little girl's work that Miss Nancy Price has consented to give this second recital.

"The passing show," a song cycle, by Herbert Oliver, is being repeated at the Palladium on Sunday evening, the artistes being Miss Carrie Tubb, Miss Carrie Herwin, Mr. Philip Rittie, and Mr. George Baker. This is the second performance at the Sunday League Concerts, and the cycle is proving a great attraction.

FILMS OF THE MOMENT.

RELEASE DATES.

KINETO, LIMITED.

Fancy Swimming, 260ft.	Mar. 1
Crossing the North Sea, 325ft.	Mar. 1
Animated Putty, 375ft.	Mar. 13
The Knock Out, 575ft.	Mar. 15
Unique Studies of Nature, 330ft.	Mar. 20
Around Agra and Lucknow, 465ft.	Mar. 20
The City of Jaipur, 330ft.	Mar. 27
Customs of Lapland, 375ft.	Mar. 29

THE AMERICAN CO.

Love and the Law, 1,000ft.	Mar. 1
Blackened Hills, 994ft.	Mar. 1
The Fraud that Failed, 995ft.	Mar. 5
The Trail of Cards, 992ft.	Mar. 8
Their Masterpiece, 992ft.	Mar. 8
Calamity Anne's Inheritance, 995ft.	Mar. 12
His Old-fashioned Mother, 658ft.	Mar. 12
The Awakening, 983ft.	Mar. 15
Where Destiny Guides, 976ft.	Mar. 19
Strange Life in Earth and Water, 400ft.	Mar. 19
A Rose of Mexico, 990ft.	Mar. 22
The Silver-Plated Gun, 976ft.	Mar. 22
The Latent Spark, 1,000ft.	Mar. 26
The Building of the Great Los Angeles Aqueduct, 986ft.	Mar. 29
Women Left Alone, 980ft.	Mar. 29

EDISON FILMS.

A Red Cross Seal Story, 1,020ft.	Mar. 1
A Noble Profession, 1,000ft.	Mar. 1
The Totville Eye, 1,000ft.	Mar. 1
On Donovan's Division, 1,000ft.	Mar, 5
When Joey was on Time, 500ft.	Mar. 5
High Explosives as Used in the U.S. Army. 325ft.	Mar. 5
He Swore Off Smoking, 525ft.	Mar. 5
Some Rare Specimens and a Few Old Friends, 1,000ft.	Mar. 12
His Mother's Hope, 1,000ft.	Mar. 12
No Place for a Minister's Son, 700ft.	Mar. 12
The First Settler's Story, 1,000ft.	Mar. 15
Old-fashioned Elopement, 1,000ft.	Mar. 15
Sunday Afternoon in Rural England, 300ft.	Mar. 15
Forest Fire, 1,000ft.	Mar. 19
Office-boy's Birthday, 600ft.	Mar. 19
Annie Crawls Upstairs, 1,000ft.	Mar. 19
How a Horseshoe Upset a Happy Family, 475ft.	Mar. 22
Never Too Late To Mend, 2,000ft.	Mar. 22
How They Got the Vote, 625ft.	Mar. 26
Yosemite National Park, and the Big Trees of California, U.S.A., 375ft.	Mar. 26

PATHE FRERES.

The Bobby and the Bow-wow, 574ft.	Mar. 1
Jack's Lucky Comet, 831ft.	Mar. 1
Fatty, the Bad Boy, 512ft.	Mar. 1
Jungle Pictures in Cochin China, 479ft.	Mar. 1
The Spanish Pyrenees, 363ft.	Mar. 1
The Temptress, 765ft.	Mar. 1
The Friends of Birds, 360ft.	Mar. 1
The Lust for Gold, 1,114ft.	Mar. 1
The Emperor's Kiss, 1,072ft.	Mar. 5
A Rose Among Thorns, 1,948ft.	Mar. 5
The Tombs of the Former Emperors of Annam, Cochin China, 429ft.	Mar. 5
The Island of Java, 361ft.	Mar. 5
Making a Mess of It, 498ft.	Mar 5
The Woman Hater, 778ft.	Mar. 5
Uncle and the Cook, 508ft.	Mar. 5
A Study of Diplomacy, 2,469ft.	Mar. 8
The Castaway, 547ft.	Mar. 8
Mrs. Jefferson's Robber, 1,016ft.	Mar. 8
The Kneltons, 343ft.	Mar. 8
Trip up the Seine (France), from Rouen to the Sea, 499ft.	Mar. 8
Dolphin Catching, 372ft.	Mar. 8
The Water-Spider, 492ft.	Mar. 8
A Jealous Wife, 947ft.	Mar. 8
Two Little Scapegraces, 537ft.	Mar. 8

GAUMONT CO.

When Thieves Fall Out, 2,960ft.	Mar. 2
When the Cat's Away, 680ft.	Mar. 2
On the Mountain of St. Gothard; Series IV.: From Andermatt to Goschenen, 335ft.	Mar. 2
Simple Simon and Calino's Panther, 680ft.	Mar. 2
The Bolted Door, 1,250ft.	Mar. 2
A Despised Present, 1,185ft.	Mar. 2
In Belad-El-Djerid, 360ft.	Mar. 2
On the Mountain of St. Gothard; Series V.: From Goschenen to Wassen, 380ft.	Mar. 2
The Manufacture of Embroidered Tapestry, 396ft.	Mar. 6
A Bad Stroke of Business, 565ft.	Mar. 6
Breton Scenery, 365ft.	Mar. 6
Back from the Dead, 2,380ft.	Mar. 9
For Two Pins ——! 925ft.	Mar. 9
On the Mountain of St. Gothard. Series VI.: From Wassen to Amsteg, 360ft.	Mar. 9
The Cabby's Nightmare, 495ft.	Mar. 9

URBANORA CO.

Mystery of the Elk City Bank, 1,770ft.	Mar. 5
Percy's Express Delivery, 310ft.	Mar. 5
Beyond the Polar Circle, 355ft.	Mar. 5
A Husband's Injustice, 985ft.	Mar. 12
Dick of the Hustle Lotion, 370ft.	Mar. 12
Barcelona, 430ft.	Mar. 12
The Red Devils, 995ft.	Mar. 19
Mirth and Mystery, 445ft.	Mar. 19
Dupin Loses His Wife, 375ft.	Mar. 19
Mexican Army, 495ft.	Mar. 19

SELIG POLYSCOPE CO.

The Girl of the Mountains, 1,007ft.	Mar. 2
In a Japanese Garden, 232ft.	Mar. 2
When Helen Was Elected, 1,007ft.	Mar. 2
The Ranger and His Horse, 1,010ft.	Mar. 6
Near-Sighted Cupid, 952ft.	Mar. 6
The Vintage of Fate, 1,000ft.	Mar. 6
The Millionaire Vagabonds, 1,020ft.	Mar. 9
Raising Barley in Japan, 315ft.	Mar. 9
God of Gold, 1,016ft.	Mar. 9
Sammy Orpheus, 1,034ft.	Mar. 13
Opitsah, 1,017ft.	Mar. 13
Buck's Romance, 1,017ft.	Mar. 13

WESTERN IMPORT CO.

Treasure Trove, 1,000ft.	Mar. 1
His Cook Lady, 558ft.	Mar. 1
A Six-Cylinder Elopement, 1,000ft.	Mar. 1
Don Cæsar De Bazan, 2,000ft.	Mar. 1
Virgin of Fire, 990ft.	Mar. 5
Mail Clerk's Temptation, 1,000ft.	Mar. 5
In a Garden, 1,000ft.	Mar. 5
Joe's Reward, 995ft.	Mar. 8
Romeo and Juliet, 2,000ft.	Mar. 8
Dick and Daisy, 985ft.	Mar. 8
Highbrow Punchers, 988ft.	Mar. 8
Winning of Helen, 995ft.	Mar. 12
Ring of a Spanish Grandee, 1,000ft.	Mar. 12
When a Count Counted, 1,000ft.	Mar. 12
Brother of the Bat, 900ft.	Mar. 15
Love of Long Ago, 1,000ft.	Mar. 15
Miss Taqu of Tokio, 1,000ft.	Mar. 15
The Star of Bethlehem, 2,000ft.	Mar. 15

HEPWORTH CO.

The Tailor's Revenge, 450ft.	Mar. 2
The Book, 1,200ft.	Mar. 6
Glimpses of the Thames in Flood, 375ft.	Mar. 6
George Barnwell, the London Apprentice, 2,500ft.	Mar. 13
Defective Detective, 575ft.	Mar. 16
We are but Little Children Weak, 925ft.	Mar. 20
Rag-time Mad, 500ft.	Mar. 20
Law in Their Own Hands, 530ft.	Mar. 23
Two Little Pals, 1,050ft.	Mar. 27
Little Willie and the Bellows, 475ft.	Mar. 27
Father's Little Flutter, 600ft.	Mar. 30

J. FRANK BROCKLISS, LTD.

An Unworthy Son, 1,020ft.	Mar. 1
Yvonne, the Foreign Spy, 957ft.	Mar. 2
Case of Small Pox, 429ft.	Mar. 2
Two Shipowners, 1,834ft.	Mar. 5
Making Good, 993ft.	Mar. 6
A Day in an Infant Asylum, 276ft.	Mar. 6
Prisoner's Story, 1,030ft.	Mar. 8
Hygiene of Milk Industry, 667ft.	Mar. 8
Paralytic, 1,000ft.	Mar. 8
Officer 174, 957ft.	Mar. 9
The Postman, 302ft.	Mar. 9
His Double, 942ft.	Mar. 12
Defeated, 1,809ft.	Mar. 12
A Strange Case, 954ft.	Mar. 13
The Exchanged Labels, 456ft.	Mar. 13
A Game of Lawn Tennis, 266ft.	Mar. 13
Careful Nursing, 889ft.	Mar. 13
The Beach Combers, 986ft.	Mar. 15
A Galley Slave's Romance, 945ft.	Mar. 15
Broken Oaths, 984ft.	Mar. 15

M. P. SALES AGENCY.

GEEM.

How Grandfather Clocks are Made, 416ft.	Mar. 9

A.B.

The Telephone Girl and the Lady, 1,010ft.	Mar. 6
Muggsy Becomes a Hero, 703ft.	Mar. 6
Three Friends, 1,010ft.	Mar. 9
The Best Man Wins, 456ft.	Mar. 9

EMPIRE.

Familiar Sights in Geyserland, 420ft.	Mar. 6

KALEM.

A Treacherous Shot, 1,005ft.	Mar. 6
The Peace Offering, 535ft.	Mar. 6
Why Tightwad Tips, 495ft.	Mar. 9
The Shaughraun, 3,075ft.	Mar. 16

WELT.

A Ramble Through the Zoo, 567ft.	Mar. 9

AQUILA.

The Three Musketeers, 1,549ft.	Mar. 9

B. AND C.

Oyster Fishery at Whitstable, 600ft.	Mar. 6
The Traffic in London, 666ft.	Mar. 9

CABOT.

Camprodor, 381ft.	Mar. 9

LUBIN.

The Power of Silence, 1,936ft.	Mar. 2
The Village Blacksmith, 1,014ft.	Mar. 6
The Girl and the Gambler, 1,015ft.	Mar. 6
Once Was Enough, 658ft.	Mar. 6
A Timely Rescue, 1,003ft.	Mar. 9
The Blind Cattle King, 1,059ft.	Mar. 9
An Accidental Dentist, 655ft.	Mar. 9

H. AND B.

Lewes and Bosham, 363ft.	Mar. 6

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee," May 15, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—"Star."

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Like a bombshell has the new Feldman ballad, "When I lost you," been ushered into existence, and once more has the Arthur-street house shown what can be done with the right material and with its wonderful organisation. In the short space of a week half a dozen of veritable top-notchers have exploited this wonderful song; and Mr. Bert Feldman assures us that in a few weeks' time no less than fifty prominent ballad vocalists will be featuring this gem. Nothing can stop this latest Irving Berlin importation. It has already taken America by storm, and it is only a matter of a very short time before we in these countries are lassoed firmly by its seductive coils. Already London, Scotland, and Ireland have been captured. Mesdames Ella Shields and Barbara Babington have to their credit its introduction to the metropolis; Talbot and Pearce gave it first to Scotland; and Miss Lil Hawthorne takes credit for its Irish introduction.

From all accounts to hand it would appear that "When I lost you" is going to be the hit of the season. Hits are what artistes should be on the look-out for, and hence it is their bounden duty to at once consult the Musical Oracle in Arthur-street and endeavour to obtain from that kindly disposed magnate the necessary permission to make this ballad one of the chief items in their programme. "Hurry up, therefore," is our advice to all professionals who want to make their fame and fortune, and that as speedily as possible.

This brings us to a reflection on some statements recently made in a weekly journal on the subject of Ragtime and its probable waning in the minds of the theatre-going public in the British Isles. The article was stated to be the output of the "Cantankerous Crank," and one could well believe it, as it had "cantankerousness" written all over it. Of course, there was no attempt at logic, or reasoning in the diatribe. It was simply the jaundiced eye viewing with its distorted retina the simplicity of syncopation as if it had expected to focus some florid composition of an ancient classic composer. We sounded Mr. Bert Feldman on the point as to whether Ragtime was likely to expire in a few months, for if anyone could prophesy on the matter it is the Arthur-street King. He is the gentleman whose fame and fortune have been amply rewarded for his enterprise in introducing syncopated melody to these shores. He has never had a doubt for a moment as to the huge success the innovation would prove, and hence his opinion is entitled to outweigh all that can be placed in the opposite scale. Mr. Feldman gives it as his considered opinion—having witnessed the memorable triumphs of Ragtime on the various pantos. throughout these countries, and having seen how the public flocked to the theatres to be thrilled and amused by the sprightly and catchy melodies—that the Ragtime flood has not at all reached high-water mark, that there are no present signs of cataracts in the way to break up or disturb the musical volume as it sweeps onward in its mighty course; and that when an ebb in the tide does set in, the backward movement will be characterised by graduations and stages of the easiest character. When that time comes, which is yet far off, as Mr. Feldman declares, the great music publishing emporium in Arthur-street will be fully equipped for syncopation's successor. That is the Feldman style of doing things; he not alone creates, but anticipates.

The delightful American comedienne, Miss Beth Tate, continues her most successful engagement at the London Pavilion. Her chief number, "Dear old wintertime," published by Messrs. Feldman and Co., is sung in fine style, and proves extremely popular.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

(COPYRIGHT.)

Lynn Mart Fair, 1913.

The great attraction of this year's fair was the splendid scenic railway made in the workshops of the world-famous roundabout engineers and designers, Savages, Ltd., one of the staple industries of the Royal borough. The show is built to the order of Mr. William Murphy, one of Yorkshire's best known showmen and a vice-president of the Showmen's Guild. Mr. Murphy may well feel proud that he starts his show season 1913 with a scenic railway that is the very last thing in artistic electric roundabouts.

We have heard of a possible rival from another famous show-building works, but until we see it we must claim for the one we have seen that it is the masterpiece of the show world.

The Delightful Artistry.

With regard to the details that only experts can explain we have nothing to do. It is enough for mere laymen in applied electric traction and illumination to say that we saw it in full swing, crowded with joyous patrons, running with perfect ease and regularity. The electrical engineers of Savages, Ltd., claims for his firm that this their latest machine contains all the improvements and additional equipment that experience has shown to be necessary. We pass, then, from the engineering side to the scenic beauty that all alike can see and appreciate. The scenario scheme is to present a mountain railway in an Oriental land—we presume, our Indian Empire. The main platform entrance gives you a delightful picture of a town with mosques and palaces. Its position at the foot of the hills makes it the starting place for the rail ride up the mountain. The mountain scenery is grandly beautiful, for you penetrate the thick jungle rank with the luxuriant growth of the forest. You cross a gorge and see beneath a torrent rushing down, and anon you see a peaceful town nestled on the mountain-side, with its water-wheel and waterfall, its wonderful buildings, towers, domes, and minarets. The scenic illusion is perfect, and the coloured lights deftly bathing the waterfall and the wheel house in limpid green is an effect worthy of a set scene at Old Drury.

The general impression left upon the mind is the exquisite grace and lightness of the conception. It is all so like the spirit of the East—light and airy, dreamy and mystic. The glamour of the Orient is over all the scene. Messrs. Sconce and Sons, scenic artists and show painters, of King's Lynn, in whose atelier the work was done, have achieved an artistic triumph. There can be no two opinions about that. The artistry and the general colour scheme are perfect. Mr. Murphy will exhibit the show at all his great fairs in the North of England and on the great Yorkshire round, and it left Lynn on Monday for Berwick-on-Tweed.

Prince and Princess Samouda.

We rejoice that these two delightful artistes are back again at our fairs with their unique and popular show. The mystic pair are sure of a hearty welcome in every town they visit. Their equipment and fit-up, their wonderful apparatus are both perfect and original, and the right atmosphere of mystery and marvel is preseved by the prince of patterers, Samouda. His outside show is a free treat, and the show inside more than justifies his outside oratory.

Charles Thurston's Shows.

The Vaudeville Picture Palace and Varieties was the premier show of the fair. Up-to-date pictures and an excellent variety turn by the Gascoynes, the living marionettes, in a double singing and dancing programme, delighted the crowds nightly. The big machine was Barker and Thurston's scenic motor track, and the second machine was Thurston and Abbott's Venetian gondola set.

Other Machine Novelties.

The prize 1912 model, the scenic railway of Messrs. G. T. Tuby and Sons, was again at the Mart, and, although in a poor position, well maintained its popularity; Messrs. E. Farrar and Sons' joy wheel and the novel machine known as "the semi-twister"; Arthur Richards' attractive concern, the Brooklyn cake-walk; and juvenile roundabouts and swings by Norman, Westrop, Skippen, and Clark.

Ling's Electric Bioscope.

Mr. Ling presented a varied selection nightly of animated pictures, drama, and topical events.

Professor Elliott's Fistiana School.

This typically British show claimed and obtained its full share of the patronage of Englishmen. The novelty show was the freak pony, and the women's temperance refreshment tent did excellent work both for the visitors and the showpeople.

All the Jolly Fun of the Fair.

The funsmiths and laughter-makers included Messrs. Westrop Bros., W. H. Doubtfire, Prestney, Fendick, Paskin, Grant, Cheeseman, Holmes, Ling, Miller, Norman, Bell, and Snell; with throwing games, variety stalls, hoop-las, rifle ranges, bogie frames, football kicks, coker shies, and all the varied attractions of the fair.

The Guild Service.

This annual event at Lynn Mart took place in Mr. Charles Thurston's Vaudeville Picture Pavilion on the fairground on Sunday, Feb. 23, at 4 p.m. The show was crowded, and the congregation most interested and attentive. The Guild chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, preached. The service was taken by the Rev. Goundry, of St. Margaret's, and the choir boys from the same church led the singing, which was of the most hearty character. The vicar of Lynn (the Rev. J. C. Vawdrey) is hon. local chaplain of the Guild, and at his invitation the Rev. T. Horne preached at St. Margaret's in the morning, and in the evening at St. Nicholas', the church of the fairground. The Guild service has now become an institution of the famous Mart. The Rev. T. Horne was the guest of Dr. and Mrs. Jackson during the week of the fair.

Guild Subscriptions, 1913.

Mr. James Ravenscroft, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Palmer, 5s.

The Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union.

We advertise an important meeting of the union at the Queen's Hotel, Bury, at 2.30 on Tuesday next, March 4.

Miss Nelly Lambert, the Leicestershire giantess, is showing most successfully in Hanley. She weighs 40 st. 3 lb., and is 7 ft. 4 in. round the waist. She is travelling with Mr. Arthur Montague, the mysterious sailor. In the same building Sacco-Homann last Saturday commenced a fifty days' fast. It is four years ago since Sacco created a great sensation in Hanley by a forty-five days' fast.

Rohde and Roche, of "The Chameleon, The Artist, and It" fame, were unexpectedly vacant this week through change of management at the Palace, Woolley Bridge, near Manchester. But at the last moment Mr. W. J. Attack was successful in securing this clever duo for which Royal Palace, Ramsgate, where they [illegible] a big success. [illegible]ced.

THE ACTOR AT HIS WORK.

By DELTA.

Though perhaps the real hard labour of the actor is done at rehearsals, his most condensed and strenuous work is performed on the stage. We shall probably never solve the problem of dramatic expression; and much that has been written on the subject has only served to darken counsel. The actor is by nature non-introspective and unanalytic, and it is only the most serious who have taken the trouble to consider "how they did it." Mrs. Siddons's methods we know; she kept "in the character" she was playing the whole of the evening, up to the final fall of the curtain, maintaining, even in the intervals, the frame of mind proper to it. While she was in this artistic trance, we are told, "no recognisance of the most noble of her friends exchanged the character for the individual." She came to herself at the end of the fifth act, and was once more the actress rejoicing in her triumph. At certain points of a performance she would turn pale so vividly that the alteration of colour could be noticed through her rouge; she once fainted in earnest when pretending to swoon; and in pathetic parts she wept copiously. As she grew older she acquired a habit of pausing after a *crescendo* passage for applause, to regain breath and give herself a short rest; and she remarked that to act Isabella out of London tired her excessively, as she missed the "loud and long applause at the great points and striking situations." Only an actor can understand how, in the practice of the art, the individual will is embarrassed by sordid and prosaic facts and incidents. When Mrs. Siddons's armchair stuck to her as she rose when playing a serious part, and when the call boy brought her pot of beer to her on the stage in the sleep-walking scene in "Macbeth," it must have needed all her elevation to preserve her equanimity.

As we have said, actors are not naturally introspective, but there was one great histrion who possessed the faculty of self-analysis to an exquisite, even painful, degree. William Charles Macready was capable of perceiving the exact merit and quality of each of his performances, or, at any rate, what he believed to be the amount of excellence in each case. His "Reminiscences" and "Diaries" give a vivid picture of the doubts, distresses, and rejoicings of the theatrical artist. He realised all the sensations of the histrionic worker, and described them unflinchingly. How graphic, for instance, is his account of his début as Orestes at Covent Garden! "After my early dinner," he says, "I lay down, and endeavoured to compose myself till the hour appointed for my setting out to the theatre. The hackney coach was called; and I can almost fancy, in recollecting it, that I feel every disquieting jolt of the rumbling vehicle, as it slowly performed the office of a hurdle in conveying me to the place of execution. The silent process of dressing was only interrupted by the call-boy's voice: 'Overture on, sir!' which sent a chill to my heart. The official rap at the door soon followed; the summons, 'Mr. Macready,' made me instantly rally all my energies, and with a firm step I went forward to my trial. But the appearance of resolute composure assumed by the player at this turning-point of his life belies the internal struggles he endures. These eventful trials, in respect to the state of mind and body in which they are encountered, so resemble each other that one described describes all. The same agitation and effort to master it, the dazzled vision, the short quick breath, the dry palate, the throbbing of the heart—all, however, painfully felt, must be effectually disguised in the character the actor strives to place before his audience!"

All actors are more or less sensitive to the inevitable contretemps of stage performances; but Macready was a born self-torturer, and they positively agonised him. He records a painful experience of his at Kendal, when he had to play Virginius without rehearsal. "My unhappy temper," he says, "was severely tried under the repeated mortifications I had experienced; but in the third act of the play, where Siccius Dentatus should be discovered on a bier with a couple of soldiers mourning over it, I saw the old man who represented the Roman Achilles lying on the ground, and two men standing near." Then Macready goes on to describe the manner in which, after he had uttered his lamentation over the prostrate Dentatus, and given the order "Take up the body, bear it to the court," the two men, stooping down, put each an arm under the shoulder of the dead Dentatus, raised him upon his feet—he preserving a corpse-like rigidity, his eyes closed, and his head thrown back—and arm in arm the trio marched off at the opposite side of the stage amid roars of laughter from the convulsed spectators. Most actors are influenced more or less by the feeling of the audience; but Macready was almost a slave to it. Not only did a cold audience spoil his performance; a too long and loud reception on his entry "put him off" and injured his subsequent acting. It may be some consolation to minor sufferers from the weaknesses of the artistic temperament, to know that one of the greatest of English actors was a man of like passions with themselves—perhaps even more so. For Macready's diaries are dotted with notes of anxieties and exultations, of hot fits and cold fits, of hopes and fears, of failures deeply realised, and successes keenly savoured. It is pitiable to find this great histrion writing thus about a performance of "Ion" at Cambridge: "Although I had prepared myself against any start of passion, and felt myself 'king of me,' to quote the absurd expression of Dryden, yet, as several blunders and inaccuracies fell out, I fell out with them. I must struggle, but fear it is a hopeless conflict. God help me!" and again, "Went to the theatre, and endeavoured to philosophise on the folly of yielding to passion; schooling myself to try how much better I should be in every way if I could care nothing for those around me, but merely fixing my attention on my own manner of doing things. I tried to do so—not with entire success, but—I must improve!"

ACTORS AND PERSPIRATION.

Among the more prosaic particulars connected with the actor's work is that of perspiration. Mr. William Archer, for his interesting work, "Masks or Faces," collected some curious facts in this connection. The late Wilson Barrett always perspired profusely when acting emotional parts. "On a bitterly cold night in America," he wrote, "when the thermometer has been 15 degrees below zero, and I have stood shivering at the wings waiting for my entrance in 'Hamlet,' I have been in a profuse perspiration before I had half finished a scene." Mr. Herbert Standing, who had played with Samuel Phelps in "The Man of the World," often saw him bathed in perspiration while sitting quietly in his chair. This exudation, it is generally agreed, is caused by excitement, not by physical exhaustion.

Macready, as is well known, used to shake a ladder violently before going on as Shylock, for the scene with Tubal in "The Merchant of Venice"; and Liston used to "curse and splutter to himself" while waiting to appear in a scene of comic rage. Phelps had the same habit; and Mr. J. B. Howard, the famous representative of Rob Roy, swore so terribly before his entrance in an energetic scene, that a female super protested that it "made her flesh creep." Miss Wallis, before Isabella's entrance in the last act of "Measure for Measure," always followed the scene throughout from the wings; and Mrs. Kendal, in order to assume the sternness of Claire in the "Ironmaster," used to shut herself up in her dressing-room and meditate on all the pains, losses, and disappointments of her life. (One would think that, in such a successful career, these were few and far [illegible]. The question how far an actor or act[illegible] "feels" the emotions he or she depicts is a futile one. The answer cannot be given, because the phenomena of dual consciousness and the workings of the nerves and brain cannot be, or at any rate, have not as yet been, analysed. The distinction between talent and genius, as made by Schopenhauer, is that genius works independently of the will; and the greater the artist the more puzzled he or she is as to "how it is done."

However, all information on anything connected with the profession of acting is interesting to our readers. Mr. Arthur Bourchier has been kind enough to engage in a duologue with me in which all the inquisitiveness has been on my side and all the courtesy on his. To the question, "Do you believe in nourishment and stimulant, or abstemiousness, about the time of your first night in a new part?" Mr. Bourchier replies, "Surely there can be but one answer to this?" Asked, "To what extent do you find the emotions you depict affect yourself personally? Are you able to abstract yourself immediately from your character, or is there a transition period for you to recover yourself?" the impersonator of MacDuff says, "I have never found myself acting 'off'!" and to the demand, "Are you affected in acting by your feelings towards the person you are playing with? For instance, could you make love to a person better if you were attached to them?" he responds, "I am no longer a *jeune premier*, so cannot answer this question!" Being cross-examined thus, "Are you ever troubled by fits of depression and dissatisfaction with your work?" Mr. Bourchier answers, "Always, when business is bad!"

MR. HARRISON ON THE DRAMA.

Mr. Frederic Harrison, writing in the "English Review" about his readings, recently remarked:—"I am as much devoted to Shakespeare as Sir Sidney Lee himself, without pretending to any special knowledge of the older dramatists, much less to any research into the life and work of our own mighty poet. But I am not so garrulous as to discourse about Shakespeare, for our most learned students and our ablest critics have now told us everything about Shakespeare which research and criticism can discover—perhaps everything which ever will be known or can be judged as sound and true. Years ago, indeed, I was asked if I would write a *Life* of Shakespeare for a famous series, but I thought it would be quite presumptuous in me to undertake such a task. And it has been perfectly well achieved long since.

"Of course, I have read my Shakespeare since I was a boy; and my father, who had heard Mrs. Siddons, the Kembles, and Edmund Kean in all the plays then given on the stage, used to read to us Shakespeare of an evening as he had heard it played. As a young man, I carried the diamond Pickering edition in daily railway journeys to and from Lincoln's Inn. Now I have A. Treherne's miniature copies in good 'Long Primer,' hardly more than two inches square (Edinburgh, 1904). I find the 'Arden' set (Methuen and Co.) very useful; and for general use I want nothing handier than the twelve volume set small d° (issued by Constable & Co., N.D.).

"All that I have to say about Shakespeare is this: Don't be satisfied with *reading* him, but go to *see* the plays on the stage. It is impossible to judge any great drama by reading it. The whole nature of a play of the first rank is transfigured when we see it adequately performed. It is only revealed in acting. *Solvitur ambulando*—a great drama unfolds itself to its catastrophe when we see the characters walk the stage before our eyes—*segnius irritant animum demissa per aurem*—no imagination can enable us to conceive the whole force of a really great drama until we *see* it. You might as well try to judge a Symphony of Beethoven by looking at the score. And this is more true of Shakespeare than of any other dramatist, ancient or modern. Shakespeare was a *player* to the tips of his toes; and he must be *seen* and *heard* on the stage to be truly known.

"I speak from personal experience. I have known the stage now for nearly seventy years, and I have heard all the great English interpreters of Shakespeare from Charles Kemble, and Macready and Charles Kean down to our day. I have seen Shakespeare's tragedies and comedies given in Berlin, Vienna, Paris, Milan, Florence—by French, Italian, German, and American actors, including Ristori, Salvini, Fechter, Mounet-Sully, and Booth. I never miss seeing a Shakespeare play, however staged; and I never see one played without learning much about it, which I never observed in reading the text. The only thing then that I have to say about Shakespeare is this: Don't be satisfied with reading him—go and hear him, as often as you can, and, if possible, as I have heard him, in different languages.

"That is the way to understand the universality of Shakespeare's genius—the unique quality in which his mind surpasses that of all other poets, no doubt all other sons of Adam. I remember a philosophic French friend taking me to see Mounet-Sully in 'Hamlet' at the Français. When the second act was finished, I said, 'That may be fine, but it is not our idea of "Hamlet."' 'No!' said my French philosopher—himself an intimate of Mounet-Sully and of Coquelin—'You forget that Hamlet was not an Englishman. There was a French Hamlet, a German, an Italian, a Russian Hamlet, each different in personal and national idiosyncrasy, but all profoundly true to Shakespeare's ideal of the inscrutable spirit of the ill-starred Prince of Denmark.' As I walked away that night from the Palais Royal I saw the truth of the remark. 'Hamlet' appeals to all nations, expresses the thought, the yearnings, the dilemmas of all, because Shakespeare deals not with national characteristics, but with the universal ideas, struggles and despair common to human nature.

"I am quite clear that our William was the greatest *poet* that ever lived, by reason of his incomparable range of power, and his mastery of *every* form of poetic art—dramatic—lyric—tragic—comic; by his profound grasp of psychology; by his exquisite sense of melody; by his wit, his humour, his supreme imagination, and his universal humanity. No other poet, ancient or modern, combined all these gifts in the highest degree. But though he was the greatest of all *poets*, I am not at all convinced that he has left the greatest of all tragedies, nor the greatest of all comedies. For pure *tragedy* in its highest form I hold Æschylus to be supreme. For perennial *comedy* in its deepest humanity I hold Aristophanes to be supreme. It is true that there is more poetry, more psychologic insight, more mysterious wisdom in 'Hamlet,' or in 'Lear,' even in the Sonnets, than in all other extant dramas; but for massive power and organic symmetry, I hold that a more perfect type of tragedy was reached in the 'Trilogy' and the 'Prometheus Bound.'

"So, for comedy, I find in Aristophanes, along with quite equal comic genius, a more Olympian vein of lyricism, a wider range of satire, and a grander sense of social and moral justice than in any of Shakespeare's comedies. For to crush Cleon was a bigger task than to chaff Falstaff. To correct the opinion of such a subtle people as that of Athens in politics, in art, in poetry, in philosophy, in manners, and in morals, and to do that by a few comedies occasionally heard in the theatre—by plays which for two thousand years have been the delight of all serious readers of all nations—this was a kind of comedy, which, with all his glorious wit and versatility, Shakespeare never attempted to touch. Nay, Molière, inexpressibly below Shakespeare in poetry, in imagination, in fancy, dealt with the moral, social, and intellectual follies of his age in a systematic and serious spirit.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ARTISTES WANTING ENGAGEMENTS And MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTES.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS) ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Word, One Penny.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each additional word, One Penny.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E., April 14, June 2, Aug. 4, 11, 18, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E., April 14, 21, May 5, 19, 26, Aug. 18, 25, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING, March 17, 31, April 14, 21, May 5, Aug. 4, 11, 18, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER, April 21, May 19, Aug. 11, 18, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 3, 24, Dec. 8, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER. Dec. 15.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON, April 14, 21, May 12, Aug. 11, 18, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD, April 21, May 12, 19, Aug. 11, 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON. March 24, May 12, Aug. 4, 11, 25, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 6, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER, May 12, June 2, 23, 30, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies for Wolverhampton, April 14, 21. Wire, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions, May 12, and few Autumn vacancies. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Kismet," "Milestones," "Ready Money," "The Quaker Girl," "Chocolate Soldier," Mrs. Langtry, "Waltz Dream," "Count of Luxembourg," "The Whip," "Glad Eye," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "Sunshine Girl," "Drake," &c.
Re dates, Jay and Mann.

WANTED, first-class Attractions only for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD. March 17, April 7, 14, May 12, on.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON. March 24, April 14, May 12, 19, on.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY. Feb. 24, on to Easter.
Address, Wm. Holland, T.R., Canterbury.

WANTED, Two Good Stock Companies, on sharing terms, from May 12 onwards, twice nightly, for Luton and Bedford; or arrangements can be made with stage-manager to produce. E. G. Falcon, C.T., Bedford.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies, March 17 (5 nights), or March 20 and 22 (2 nights, 1 matinée). April 21, 28, May 19, June 2. Apply, G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, March 17, April 21, on (exceptions), Panto. for Xmas Production. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for April 7, 14, 21, May 12 (Whit.). Also Autumn. Apply, J. E. Bull, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
Lessee: Lieut.-Colonel Winstanley.
WANTED, Musical Attraction, March 17; Dramatic, April 7, 14 (first three nights). All communications re dates, Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket.

KEMBLE THEATRE, HEREFORD.
A Magnificent New Theatre. Holding £100.
WANTED, High-class Attractions. All communications re dates, Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-street, Haymarket, S.W.
Tel., "Shrieking Charles, London" (counts two words).

THEATRE ROYAL, SWANSEA.
This newly constructed, redecorated, and refurnished theatre is now open for staging the very best productions on the road.
WANTED, Grand Opera, Musical Comedy, High-class Plays, Pantomimes, and every other kind of money-making attraction.
Vacant dates to William Coutts, Proprietor.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Lessee and Manager, Sidney Bacon.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Oct. 20, on.
Bookings include:—Carl Rosa Opera Co., "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "The Glad Eye," "The Chocolate Soldier," "Milestones," "Count of Luxembourg."
Address, Sidney Bacon, 143, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.
Telephone, 1456 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Nocabdis-Ox-London."

THEATRE ROYAL, COLCHESTER.
WANTED, Good Companies (last three nights of week only preferred), March 10, 17, April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 19, 26, and Autumn. Macdona.

THEATRE ROYAL, ST. HELENS.
WANTED, First-class Company for May 19. Twice nightly preferred. Harry E. Johnson.

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR TYDFIL.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Easter, Whit, and August, March 31, April 14, on, with exceptions.
J. W. Wilkinson, General-Manager, Theatre Royal, Merthyr Tydfil.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. WANTED,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. STAR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. ATTRACTIONS
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. THE
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOLLOWING
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. DATES,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
Vacant March 17, 31, May 5, July 14, 28, Aug. 18, 25, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY.
Early Spring Vacancies.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Early Spring Vacancies.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Early Spring Vacancies.

Wanted, Large Theatre to produce "Cinderella" Pantomime next Season.
Wanted, to Let, on Royalty, for Stock Season or Tour, several Important Dramas, including "The Prairie Flower," "Our British Empire," &c., &c.
All communications to Arthur Carlton, Ravenscourt, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for April 7, and the three nights commencing April 21. Bookings for spring, 1913, include: "Brewster's Millions," "The Queen Mother," F. R. Benson Co., "The Arcadians," "Babes in the Wood," "Cinderella," "The Glad Eye," "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Silver King," "Man and Superman," "The Girl in the Train," "The Speckled Band," "Hindle Wakes," and "The Count of Luxembourg." Applications for dates, Hugh Robertson, T.R., Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
T.R., DUBLIN, April 28.
G.T., DUBLIN, May 19 (?).
O.H., BELFAST, May 12, 19, 26 (?).
O.H., CORK, April 28, May 5 (?).
G.T., SWANSEA, May 19, June 16, 23, 30.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON, T.R., BOURNEMOUTH, March 17 (4 nights).
P.P.T., BRIGHTON, April 14 (?), 21, 28.
HIPPO., DARLINGTON, good twice-nightly Drama, new to Darlington, June 30, July 14, Aug. 11.
Apply, The Fredk. Mouillot Offices, 1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

GAIETY, DUNDEE.
WANTED, Twice-nightly Attractions, March 10, March 10, March 31, March 31, and various onward.
Address (re dates only), Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-road, London. Wires, "Aiteney-Ox-London." 'Phone, Regent 1480.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.
WANTED, Pay Box Attracting Plays, April 28, July 21, 28, Dec. 1, 15, 22, and various 1914.
Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-road, London. Wires, "Aiteney-Ox-London." 'Phone, Regent 1480.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Companies Only, First-class Companies Only, First-class Companies Only, March 3 (3), March 10 (3), March 3 (3), March 10 (3), March 17 (3 or 6), March 31 (6), March 17 (3 or 6), March 31 (6), April 14 (3), May 5 (6), April 14 (3), May 5 (6), May 22 (3), May 26 (6). May 22 (3), May 26 (6). Also for July and August.
C. S. BIRCH, Lessee, Theatre Royal, Leamington.

OPERETTA HOUSE, CLACTON-ON-SEA.
WANTED, First-class Attractions. Only vacant dates, July 7, 21, Aug. 21 (3 nights), Sept. 18 (3 nights), 22.
List of Bookings:—
"Mrs. Dane's Defence,"
"Carl Hertz,"
"The Glad Eye" (Return),
"Jelf's,"
"Dust of Egypt,"
"Quaker Girl,"
"Milestones,"
"Gay Lord Quex,"
"Ann," &c., &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD, E.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, New to Stratford, June 9, 16, 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28, Aug. 4, 11, 25.
A. E. Abrahams, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, London, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH. Vacant, May 19, June 2 and 9, Aug. 11, 18 (Race Week), and 25, Sept. 8 and 15, Oct. 13 and 27.
All communications to J. Chas. Imeson, Opera House, Middlesbrough.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Powerful Attractions, for Weeks of April 14 and 28. Weeks of April 14 and 28. Wire or write to W. W. Kelly, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Wanted, high-class Companies, March 17. Eastbourne and Ipswich. April 7, Tunbridge Wells and Eastbourne. March 31, Fulham, April 14, Fulham, T. Wells, and Folk. (3 each). Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

SHODFRIARS HALL, BOSTON.
Lessee and Manager, Harold H. Dodds.
WANTED, Good Attraction for Easter Monday and Tuesday, also May 5, 6, and 7 (Boston Fair).

NEW CENTURY THEATRE, MOTHERWELL.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions (twice nightly), March 31, April 14, 21, May 5, and onward, with exceptions; also Autumn.
Full particulars, John A. Walker.

COMPANIES WANTED.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions only, for the above popular Drama Theatre, as follows:—
April 7, April 14, April 21, May 26, Aug. 4, Aug. 11, Aug. 18, and on, with exceptions.
Write, with full particulars, Moss' Empires, Ltd., Cranbourn-street, London, W.C. Envelopes marked "Theatres."

SEVEN PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies.
CORONET THEATRE, LONDON, W. May 12, 19, June 2, 23.
FULHAM THEATRE, S.W. March 31, April 14, onwards.
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE. March 17, April 7 (?), 21, 28.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS. April 28, May 12, 19, June 2, 9, 16.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE. April 16 (3), 21 (3), 28, June 5 (3), 9, onwards.
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS. April 7 to May 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH. March 17, April 28,, May 5 (3), 19, 26 (3).
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

MORTON POWELL THEATRES.
WANTED, Wanted, Powerful Plays.
BRITANNIA THEATRE, LONDON. March 17.
BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM. June 2, 9, 16.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH. March 10, 31.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, April 14, 21, May 5, 26, nothing but Absolute First-class Attractions to write in. Five Weeks' Pantomime, £4,500 (Four Thousand Five Hundred Pounds). Week following, "Peter Pan," £1,194. Six pounds short of Twelve Hundred Pounds. One-act Dramas of the very highest calibre can be entertained on a certainty for the One House Nightly Season, commencing in May. Address, in every case, J. M. Glover, Drury Lane Theatre.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, First-class Productions, Musical Comedy, Drama, or Variety, May 19, 26, June 9, 16, 23, 30, July, onwards, with exceptions. Also good Musical, Dramatic, or Variety Productions, for Garrison Theatre, Tidworth, March 3, 10, 17, on, with exceptions.
Address, Alfred Manners, Empire Theatre, Swindon.

WANTED, Pretoria, Okehampton; holds 300 (main line, Exeter-Plymouth); scenery, piano, electric light; 65 per cent. to 80 per cent. Tel. address, "Vide," Okehampton.

THE NEW RINK THEATRE, WREXHAM.
Now open for staging the first productions. Stage, 50 by 40. Pros. opening, 30ft.
Bookings for Summer and Autumn.
WANTED, First-class Companies only. Write W. Wood Winstanley, Manager, Re dates, &c.

REPERTORY THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
A few vacant dates at the above First-class Theatre May 19, onwards.
WANTED, First-class Companies. Offers invited. Melodramas excepted. Apply, Basil Dean, General Manager.

INVERNESS.
WANTED, Companies touring Scotland, book Inverness Music Hall, September onwards. Vacant for New Year week. Manager, Munro Todd.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for March 17, April 7, and onward. Address, E. B. Goulden.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Companies, for April 28, May 12, and June and July dates. Apply, J. H. Curry, as above.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
Metropole Theatre, Gateshead, April 7, 14, 21,
Theatre Royal, North Shields, March 31.
Grand Theatre, Lancaster, April 7, 28, May 5, 19.
Stanley Rogers, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

SHODFRIARS HALL, BOSTON.
Lessee and Manager, Harold H. Dodds.
WANTED, Good Attraction for Easter Monday and Tuesday, also May 5, 6, and 7 (Boston Fair).

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
WANTED, Attraction, March 24, 31, and on. Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

LEON VINT'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
HIPPODROME, NEATH. March 13 (three nights). Wire! Wire! Wire!
PRINCE OF WALES, NUNEATON. March 31, April 7, 14, May 5.
All communications to James J. Welch, c/o Leon Vint, 142, Long-acre, London, W.C.

PAISLEY AND PERTH THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
March 10, six nights, PERTH.
March 17, six nights, PAISLEY.
April 28, six nights, PAISLEY.
May 5 and 12 at both Theatres.
Apply, J. H. Savile, Paisley Theatre.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, twice nightly, April 28, also June 9, 30, and on.
Apply, T. W. Rowe.

WINTER GARDENS PAVILION, RAMSGATE.
Summer Season, 1913.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, not Dramas.
Offers, dates, and full particulars, first letter.
Address, Entertainments Manager, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Big Attractions, for April 14, 28, onwards.
Reply, Parker, Grand Theatre, Nelson.

WANTED, Wanted, High-class Attractions, March 10 (wire), Easter, to open Saturday (wire), March 31, April 7, 14, 20 (?), 28 (?), Sept. 15, and Oct. 6, 13, 20. This month's bookings include "Hindle Wakes," "Edged Tools," "Barrier," March Hares, "What Happened to Jones," &c.
Apply, Frank Wolsey, Lighthouse Pavilion, Hoylake.

HIPPODROME, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Twice-nightly Attractions, April 28, May 5, and August dates.
Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-st., Oldham.

GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
WANTED, First-class Companies, April 21 and May 5. Powerful attraction July 14 (Fair and Race Week), 21, 28, Aug. 4, and autumn.
Harry W. Day.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, [illegible] big, March 17, April 7, 21. [illegible] Wire, or reply, Horner, Victoria T[illegible]

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COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions Only, May 19, and onwards.
Address, Lawson Lambert, as above.

STANLEY, DURHAM, ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Big Attractions, March 17, April 7, 14, and on, with exceptions; musical or variety preferred. Apply, Mark H. Lindon.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Dramatic Attraction, March 17.
Wanted, Dramatic Attraction, March 17.
Wanted, Dramatic Attraction, March 17.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, First-class Company, T.R., Halifax, April 7, week.
Address, Otto C. Culling, T.R., Bury

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE MONK AND THE WOMAN."
WANTED, Wanted, March 31, April 7, May 5, 12, and on.
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, March 24, Aug. 4, 18, &c.
Andrew Melville, Empire T., Holloway, N.

Alexandre Dumas' Masterpiece,
"MONTE CRISTO,"
from the New Princes Theatre, W.C.
The entire production carried.
WANTED, March 10, Sept. 1, 8.
Andrew Emm, Princes Theatre W.C.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, for this Phenomenal Attraction,
Weeks of May 26 and June 2.
Weeks of May 26 and June 2.
Weeks of May 26 and June 2.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
The Most Successful Version ever Written.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Weeks of April 14 and 21.
Weeks of April 14 and 21.
Weeks of April 14 and 21.
Once or twice nightly.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, or Large Halls, March 24, onwards.
Big Company. Full Chorus.
Real Negro Specialities.
All the Special Scenery and Printing.
Charles Harrington,
Grand Theatre, Southampton.

"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Theatre, March 17, 24. (The latter through a misunderstanding.)
April 14, May 12,
June 2, 23, 30, &c., &c.
J. Pitt-Hardacre,
Prince of Wales', Birmingham.
Letters, &c., to 62, Islington-row, Birmingham.

J. W. CORDINER and HARRY RICHARDSON'S COMPANY.
"THE COLOMBO GIRL."
By Wilfred Carr.
Music by Harry Richardson.
WANTED, March 24, 31, April 7.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER, March 3, THEATRE ROYAL, SMETHWICK.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
"DEADWOOD DICK."
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
"FOR AULD LANG SYNE."
"THE HOUR OF HER TRIUMPH."
"A MODERN MAGDALEN."
"MAN AND HIS PARAMOUR."
"WIFE OR MISTRESS?"
"THE GIRL FROM LEICESTER SQUARE."
WANTED, Theatre for Stock Season.
Theatre for Stock Season.
Theatre for Stock Season.
FRED. BULMER,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres for above, from Easter onwards. Would rent a good Provincial Theatre. Letters, Stafford, Biddenden, Kent.

"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 31, April 21, 28, May 5. Entire actual Kingsway Theatre production. Bookings include all principal provincial and suburban theatres.
H. V. Neilson. March 3, Wimbledon Theatre. March 10, Coronet Theatre, W.

MADGE CRICHTON in "ANN."
WANTED, March 24, 31 (3 nights), April 7, May 5 (3 nights), 12. Haldane Crichton, 4, Park-place, St. James's, S.W.

"THE DUST OF EGYPT"
and "AFTER THE OPERA."
WANTED, dates, March 24 (between return Hastings and return Brighton), April 14 and 21 (North or Midlands). George Waters, 4, Park-place, St. James-st., W.

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S CO.
Young Buffalo
and
Caroline May Blaney in
"KING OF THE WILD WEST."
(Once or Twice Nightly.)
WANTED, May 5 and 12; a few Autumn dates. Coms., Frank Mundill, Alhambra, Openshaw. Next, T.R., Oldham.

Ireland's Representative Comedian.
CHALMERS MACKEY,
in
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
"ROLLICKING RORY."
WANTED, no vacant dates till Spring, 1914.
March 3,
Alex. Theatre, Widnes.

"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Wanted, March 31, Aug. 4, 11, 25,
Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22.
E. L. Garside,
Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

"THE BLACKGUARD OF THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT." Star Cast.
WANTED, Wanted, April 14, 14, 14.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, T.R., Sheffield.

"THE SHERIFF OF LONESOME PINE."
A Gripping Story of the Great American West.
WANTED, for this Gigantic Production,
Easter, April 14.
Easter, April 14.
Rhyde. March 3, G., Nottingham. ..., 26, Russell-st., 6 Flat, Brixton.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD COMPANIES.

The Original and Best.

A Column of Winners.

Good Wine Needs no Bush.

"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

Success!!!
Success!!!
Success!!!

Verdict—Great Success.

If in doubt, refer to
Mr. Wentworth Croke.

Copy of unsolicited letter received from Mr. Wentworth Croke.
Lyric Opera House,
Hammersmith, W.
Just a hurried line to congratulate you most heartily on your production here last night of a "Clever Impostor." It is a good show in every way; very well acted, and staged in the way that one now associates with your management. Wishing you all the success you deserve.

Enough said.

Everything travelled, including a Horse.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
May 5 and 12.
May 5 and 12.
May 5 and 12.
May 5 and 12.
May 5 and 12.
May 5 and 12.

Fast Booking the Autumn.
Fast Booking the Autumn.
Fast Booking the Autumn.

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED THEATRES,
WANTED THEATRES,
WANTED THEATRES,
WANTED THEATRES,
April 21,
April 21,
April 21,
April 21,
May 5, 26,
May 5, 26,
May 5, 26,
May 5, 26,
June 2, 9, 16,
June 2, 9, 16,
June 2, 9, 16,
June 2, 9, 16,
and onwards.
and onwards.

"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, THEATRES,
WANTED, THEATRES,
WANTED, THEATRES,
WANTED, THEATRES,
March 17, 17, 17,
March 17, 17, 17,
March 17, 17, 17,
March 17, 17, 17,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Oct. 13,
Oct. 13,
Oct. 13,
Oct. 13,
Dec. 15, 22.
Dec. 15, 22.
Dec. 15, 22.
Dec. 15, 22.

Re Dates,
Mr. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
Holmdene, 3, River Bank, Hampton Court,
Telephone: 1,732, Kingston-on-Thames.

"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, BIG THEATRES,
WANTED, BIG THEATRES,
WANTED, BIG THEATRES
May 19, 26,
May 19, 26,
June 9, 16, 23.
June 9, 16, 23.
and onwards.
and onwards.

Autumn nearly Filled.

The Ideal Twice-Nightly Attraction.

This is without doubt the finest Spectacular production ever attempted beyond the precincts of the West-End.

Costumes, Scenery, and General Mounting Unsurpassed.

Bevy of Beautiful Women.

Musical Director.

In brief, absolutely the last word in Up-to-date Enterprise.

Managers delighted.

Managers please note that owing to the enormous success of "Allah's Orchard," this play will be Toured right through the summer.

Those with Vacant Dates please communicate for this very Strong Attraction.

Messrs. Hinton and Zillwood wish to assure Managers that "Allah's Orchard" is THE Success of 1913.

If you see it in a Hinton and Zillwood Advertisement, it is so.

Re dates,
ARTHUR HINTON,
PALACE, GLOUCESTER.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates, "BROUGHT TO RUIN,"
March 24.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL WITHOUT A HOME."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates, This Strong Attraction,
Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates, This Powerful Play,
March 24, 31.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
March 31, April 7, 14.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
April 7, 14, 21.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
WANTED, March 31, April 7, Aug. 4, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 6, and on.
"IN A MAN'S POWER."
Wanted, May 26, June 2.
J. Forbes Knowles,
Grand T., Plymouth.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, April 21, to follow Nottingham, Mansfield, Worksop, Bangor, Gloucester, Dublin, and precede Aston, Smethwick, Canning Town, Hammersmith, Elephant, &c. Horace Stanley, to-day, Grand, Nottingham; next, Mansfield.

HERBERT JAY'S WEST-END CO. in "BABY MINE,"
Preceded by R. Brighten Salisbury's Co., "THE QUAINTS."
WANTED, March 24, April 14 and 21, and May 12. Herbert Jay, Wyndham's Theatre.

"THE WITNESS FOR THE DEFENCE."
WANTED, March 24, 31, April 21, May 5, 26. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

WANTED, for the sensational success, "The Slave Girl," good Theatres, July 28, Sept. 1, 22, 29, and Oct. 6. Excellent business everywhere. Address, T. E. Ward, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, March 10,
March 17.
Tom H. Taylor, Alhambra Theatre, Manchester.

"HINDLE WAKES."
The play that is breaking records everywhere.
Fast Booking Summer and Autumn.
WANTED, March 17. April 7, North, Xmas and New Year, Large Theatres.
All applications, Edwin T. Heys,
Mile End, Stockport.

HERBERT FULLER'S PLAYS AND TOURS.
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."
WANTED, Easter, April 28, May 5, June 2, 9, 16, 23, July 21, 28, Aug. 25, and various on; cast of 15. "MOTHERLESS," Vacant June 9, 16, 23, July 21, 28, Aug. 4, 11, 25, and various on. Entire productions carried. "ALADDIN," Wanted, Production, and various on; gorgeous production; guarantee 50 Artistes.
O.H., Torquay. Next, County T., Reading.

"THROUGH DEATH VALLEY."
The Great Mormon Play.
WANTED, May 12, Whit Week. Only vacant date.
Bertram, 5, Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E.

MR. HENRY ADNES,
by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman, presents "THE CONCERT," Comedy, in Three Acts, from the Duke of York's Theatre, London.
WANTED, Wanted, Whit Week.
Adnes, Dalston Theatre.

"THE AMAZONS,"
By Arthur Pinero.
The Great Farcical Success from the Duke of York's Theatre, London.
Preceded by "THE SERGEANT OF HUSSARS."
By Cicely Hamilton.
WANTED, March 31 (3), between Cheltenham and Harrogate; July 28, between Blackpool and Scarborough; Aug. 11, on.
Address, Alfred Gray, County Theatre, Bangor.

"A TRIP TO CHINATOWN."
The famous Strand Theatre Musical Comedy.
WANTED, July 7, 8, 9 (South Coast). July 14, 15, 16 (precede Rhyl). July 21 (week).
August Bank Holiday.
Harold Wagner, Hippodrome, Shildon.

"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, Good Theatres for this great Musical Success, May 5 and 12. Grand revival on an elaborate scale of the well-known Musical Success,
"THE MAJOR."
Don't Wait and See, Come and See.
Production Hogger's T., Llanelly, March 24. Wanted, Good Theatres, April 7 (follow Bargoed), May 5, 12, and 19.
"MISS LAMB—OF CANTERBURY."
Vacant, Aug. 5, 12, 19. Henry L. Osmond, T.R., Cardiff.

WANTED, through misunderstanding, Easter, Easter, for
"Leah Kleschna"
or "Mr. Smith."
Either or both.
Add., S. R. Squires, K.T., Longsight, Manchester.

H. V. Esmond and Eva Moore's Company,
"ELIZA COMES TO STAY."
A Farcical Comedy in 3 Acts, by H. V. Esmond.
The Present Criterion Success.

WANTED, Managers to Send their Vacant Season Dates, Aug. onward, for this great London success to
Ernest Benham, Criterion Theatre, W.

No. 1 Company will include H. V. Esmond and Eva Moore and full London production.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Benge and Co.,
"THE COWBOY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, Easter, and March 31, between Gloucester and Grand, Brighton, April 14, between Brighton and Sheerness, May 19, follow Court, Wigan, few Autumn. Booked at the best dramatic theatres. Letters, T.R., Swansea.

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."
A Perfect Production. Refer all Theatres Visited.
WANTED, March 10, 24, onwards.
Lloyd and Bown, Variety Theatre, Rushden.

"MAN TO MAN."
Edward Lloyd and Clifford Bown's Co.
WANTED, April 21, 28, Whit.
Edward Lloyd, Lyceum, Newport.

"CLAUDIAN."
WANTED, March 31 (Midlands). March 31 (Midlands). March 31 (Midlands). William Maclaren, T.R., West Stanley, Durham

"THE RUIN OF A COUNTESS."
and
"THE NIHILIST."
WANTED, Theatres. Wire for March 24, 31, April 7, on. Silverstone, T.R., Woolwich.

"Mrs. Dane's Defence," "The Liars," "Joseph Entangled," by Henry Arthur Jones.
WANTED, Easter, April 7 (precede Swansea), April 21 (precede Yarmouth). Millar Anderson. To-day, P.P.T., Brighton. Next, Grand, Wolverhampton.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
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MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.

THE PRAIRIE OUTLAW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

North Company vacant March 10, April 7. Only vacant dates until Autumn, which is rapidly booking. South Company, Spring fully booked. Vacant August 4, 11, few late Autumn.

This Play guaranteed the finest dressed and mounted Indian Play on the road. Will live, as it has a strong dramatic plot. Two Companies nearly full 1913, and now booking 1914. Refer to Messrs. Percy B. Broadhead; T. W. Rowe, Palace, Newcastle; J. Coulson, S. Shields; Leon Salberg, Alex., Birmingham, &c., &c

THE WILD GIRL OF THE FOREST.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Guaranteed one of the best mounted military plays on the road.

More New Beautiful Uniforms just being added, Scenery, &c.

Vacant Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Vacant Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Vacant Aug. 4, 11, 18.

Fast Booking.
Fast Booking.
Fast Booking.

WAS SHE TO BLAME?

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.

HER PATH OF SORROW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Summer and Autumn Dates.

August Bank Holiday and Xmas Settled.
August Bank Holiday and Xmas Settled.
August Bank Holiday and Xmas Settled.

MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S NEW PRODUCTION.

Production Aug. 18, at the Junction, Manchester, With the Broadhead Circuit to follow.

Title to be known later.

THE BOY DETECTIVE.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Production, Whit week, King's, Longsight.
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lyndon's Company.

Many thanks to Mr. Percy B. Broadhead for all his theatres.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Lessee and Manager, F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Aug. 11, 25.
Vacant Aug. 11, 25.
Vacant Aug. 11, 25.

This is the Dramatic Theatre of the Town.
Business better each year.

J. NEWTON COWLING'S TOUR.

THE COLLIER'S LASS.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Two companies on the road of this great success.

Both equal.

North. Co. Vacant Whit.
North. Co. Vacant Whit.
North. Co. Vacant Whit.

South Co. Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
South Co. Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
South Co. Vacant Few Autumn Dates.

This Spring Fully Booked.

Managers of South and Welsh Towns who are afraid of booking this piece are requested to refer to Palace, Bordesley; then T.R., Stratford, where it did enormous; and T.R., Woolwich, and Star, Swansea. Whether North, South, East, or West this Play breaks records. Guaranteed the biggest dramatic success on the road to-day.

HER SECRET LOVER.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.

Managers needing good, sound, honest attractions, book
Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Plays.
Write for same to
F. G. Kimberley,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

THEATRES WANTED.

GORE OUSELEY'S PREDOMINANT PRODUCTIONS
of the haunting
"CINGALEE."
From Daly's Theatre.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. First vacant dates, May 19, June 9, and August Bank Holiday.
Gore Ouseley,
50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone: Regent, 2286. Wire: "Ouseley, London."

"A SULTAN FOR A NIGHT."
or "TURKISH DELIGHT."
A Musical Comedy Sketch. In two scenes. Plays thirty minutes.
Wanted, Theatres and Halls.
Production shortly.
Gore Ouseley,
50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone: Regent, 2286. Wire: "Ouseley, London."

"ANN."
The latest Criterion Success, with Miss Madge Crichton in the title-rôle.
Wanted, First-class Theatres.
For vacant dates.
Address,
Gore Ouseley,
50, Rupert-street, W.
Or Haldane Crichton, 1, Park-place, St. James's, S.W.

"THE GOLD DIGGERS,"
or, "THE BROKEN TRAIL."
The Most Vivid Drama Ever Written.
Once or Twice Nightly.
Wanted, First-class Theatres.
Vacant May 19, to precede Stratford; also Whit week.
Gore Ouseley,
50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone: Regent, 2286. Wire: "Ouseley, London."
E. P. Morgan, General-Manager.

All Coms. Addressed to
H. MONTAGUE ASHLEY AND CAMPBELL GOLDSMID'S COMPANIES.
All private coms. re biz. will not be entertained.
"WITH EDGED TOOLS."
Henry Seton Merriman's Masterpiece.
(By arrangement with Armitage and Leigh.)
WANTED, Dates, for this Great Attraction, as follows: March 31 (North preferred), April 21, 28, May 5 (South or Midlands), Aug. 11 (follow Kelly's, Liverpool), Sept. 8, 15 (North Scotland preferred), Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 3 (Wales or South).

Grand Autumn Production,
"UNDER THE CANOPY."
By J. James Hewson.
The Great Russo-Jewish Play, of Intense Dramatic Interest.
Production date,
Lyric, Hammersmith, Aug. 25.
Vacant Dates:—
Sept. 1 (South), 8, 15, 29 (South or Wales), Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 10 (follow Stratford), Dec. 8, and Xmas.
Cast and Production second to none.
Maud Morton Powell as Naomi
and Campbell Goldsmid as General Ivan Petramo.
All coms., to-day, Hippo., Wednesbury.
Next week, Boston (3), Grantham (3).

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, March 10, to precede T.R., Belfast, Fifth Visit.
Once or twice nightly. Seventh year of tour.
Lole Esmond,
To-day, Pavilion, Hoylake.
March 3, Picturedrome, Atherstone.

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S
Latest American Production,
"THE ROUND UP."
The Real Thing in Cowboy Melodrama.
Once or twice nightly.
WANTED, Big Theatres or Music Halls, for April 28 (Midlands),
Whit Week (Midlands or South).
A beautiful scenic production. Powerful company. Everything carried. A clear stage only required.
Address, Geo. E. Carleton,
This, P.O.W., Salford.
Next, T.R., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "PASSERS-BY,"
Sept. 1, 15, Oct. 6, 20 (?), 30 (3 nights), Nov. 3, 17, North and Midland.
Apply, Leslie Moreton,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

ARTISTES WANTED.

MR. C. WATSON MILL'S TOURS & PLAYS.
WANTED, to rehearse Monday, Stratford, E., Juvenile Leading Lady (capable Power and Pathos), Smart Cockney Comedian, and Carpenter (tall) to combine Baggage and speak few lines. Wire or write quickly full particulars, age, height, references. Mill, Rivington, Harrogate.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE, LTD.,
STOCK COMPANIES.
WANTED, first-class Leading Lady; must be good, study for stock, twice nightly.
Apply, with full particulars,
Frederic Baugh,
Foresters' Theatre, Cambridge-road, Mile End.

"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
WANTED, good Leading Lady. Lowest terms, references, and photograph to Stuart Cleveland, The South London Palace, S.E.

WANTED, for Drama, good Heavy Lady, Juvenile Lead. Gent.; good appearance essential; also good Vocalists and Acts, for Concerts, Picture and Music Halls. London Provincial Agency, 49, Goldsmith-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, for five weeks, commencing March 17, Juvenile Lady; must be tall and pretty; for tour of London Comedy. Letters, photos, terms, and full particulars to Manager, 33, Radnor Park-crescent, Folkestone.

WANTED, for O. Silverstone's Companies, good straight man for Doctor; rehearse Monday. Apply, Silverstone, T.R., Woolwich.

WANTED, Exceptional Amateur (Lady) to play part in Comedy, on tour. Small investment required; returnable in salary and share.
Apply, Manager,
Box 4,419, "The Era."

WANTED, rehearse Monday, Gentlemen for Young Marlow, Ingot, Hardcastle. Call between 12 and 2 to-day. R. T. Crawford, 33, Inglis-road, Ealing Common.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman, willing to lend £25, and take part in well-known drama; salary and good interest paid; splendid chance for professional or amateur. Apply, Box 4,425, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Vocalists Coached and accompanied for stage and ..., terms moderate. Olga, ...
Miss Leslie, 49, Newmans are at ... ced. re

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Lady Dramatist wants Small Part; sketch or otherwise; moderate salary (recommended). Box 4,418, "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
"CINDERELLA," "DICK WHITTINGTON."
Xmas, 1913-14.

WANTED, Artistes in All Lines, for Pantomime. Principal Boys, Principal Girls, First-class Comedians, Fairy Queen, Demon King. Musical Conductors, Specialities.
Ladies not under 5ft. 6in. for Chorus and Ballet. Address, with full particulars, and state where can be seen working for the next three weeks, to Thos. Swinton, 4, Birchfield-road, Widnes.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Energetic and Capable Acting-Manager, for first-class suburban variety theatre. Apply, with lowest terms and latest references to Box 4,430, "The Era."

WANTED, Poster Writer, with experience in large work. Good wages and prospects to suitable man. Apply, Sheffields, Ltd., Barwick House, Birmingham.

WANTED, Electrical Engineer, with knowledge of hydraulics and general engineering. Must be capable of taking charge of department of large Variety Syndicate.
Apply, with full particulars, and latest references and salary required to
Box 4,410, "The Era."

WANTED, two experienced and reliable Electricians for Speciality Electrical Act, opening early April. Also Four Smart and Attractive Comediennes; must be skilful Dancers. Apply, Box 4,401, "The Era."

WANTED, Carpenter, Bench Hand; permanency to suitable man. Age, refs., and lowest terms or no notice taken. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

"WITH EDGED TOOLS."
WANTED, Wanted, Carpenter.
Ashley and Goldsmid.
To-day, Hippo., Wednesbury.
Next week, Boston (3), Grantham (3).

WANTED, a First-class (young, single), practical Billposter, to travel with circus agent, England; also tend horse and van; none but thoroughly respectable and teetotaller need apply; wages to start 26s.; engagement commences March 15. References and particulars to W. C. Burns, 43, Newdigate-street, Crewe.

WANTED, for London Theatre, capable woman as Assistant Wardrobe Mistress. Ability to cut essential. Box 4,409, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, by practical Variety Stage Manager; a man who understands his business; now working West-End Theatre. Box 4,260, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Advance Agent (first class), Stage Management, or useful capacity; experienced; highest London references. George Leybourne, 30, Drayton-park, Highbury.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Leader, also First Violin; must be used to both Variety and Drama; open Monday, March 10. Age, references, lowest terms, Sam Duckworth, Empire Theatre, Tonypandy.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT,
Palace Theatre, Bradford.
WANTED, First-class Leader; must be experienced in Variety. Apply with terms and references to E. Broadbent, Mus. Dir., as above.

HIPPODROME, WIGAN.
WANTED, Leader, to open Monday.
Apply, Worswick.

WANTED, Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists, and Double Bass Players, for Royal Mail Liners. Apply to Enos Greene, 205, Fordwych-road, Cricklewood, N.W.

BOSTOCK CIRCUIT.
WANTED, Violinist (repetiteur); must be thoroughly experienced in Varieties. To open Monday, March 10. 32s. 6d. References, &c., to Manager, Hippo., Hamilton.

WANTED, Second Violinist, who can also play brass instrument for parade.
Please apply Lord John Sanger and Sons, Ltd., Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, Lady Violinist and 'Cellist; thoroughly experienced; Easter week; comfortable engagement; live in; terms, references. Miss Louie Bette, Pianist, Margate.

WANTED, Lady Violinist, for Café; must be good leader. Terms, &c., to Wilson, Peck, and Co., Sheffield.

WANTED, Young Lady Violinist, for Summer Season at high-class hotel. Must be good sight-reader. Write to Box 4,417, "The Era."

WANTED, Violinist (combine piano) and 'Cellist; must be thoroughly experienced in small orchestral work and soloists; liberal salary; permanency. F. L., Box 4,429, "The Era."

WANTED, for Tenting Season, two First Cornet Players, either to play first or second euphonium and trombone, and Clarinet Player; salary 30s. per week; money sure; people accustomed to small circus preferred. All letters addressed Thos. Pinder, Winchburgh, Linlithgowshire, Scotland.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Scenic Jungle, to commence March 20, Solo Cornet, Euphonium, Trombone, Bombardon, and Double Drums; terms, 30s. per week. Apply, Patricroft, near Manchester, till March 4.

WANTED, Good Cornet Player.
Permanency to good man.
Will Smithson, Empire, Barnsley.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, Euphonium, Drums, with effects, for tenting Circus in Ireland. Terms, apply, M. Corbett, 41, North-gardens, Brighton.

WANTED, good Cornet Player, steady and reliable; A.M.U.; state age, &c.; open March 10. J. Field, M. D., Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Solo B Flat Clarinet Player, also E Flat Clarinet Player, to join Staff Band. Young, unmarried men, if able to play a stringed instrument, preferred. Apply by letter,
C. Mahillon and Co.,
182, Wardour-street, London, W.

WANTED, for Swallows' International Circus, tenting, Bombardon and Trombone; terms 30s. Leader, 6, Nut-street, Halliwell, Bolton.

WANTED, 'Cello Player, for Hotel Business.
Apply, Cooper, 3, Mersey-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, 'Cello and Drums, six nights, commencing Monday, March 3. State lowest inclusive terms. Mark H. Lindon, Theatre Royal, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Ladies, Flute, Drums, and Cornet, for long Continental Tour. Write, Box 4,414, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for High-class Picture Theatre in the North, First-class 'Cellist and First Violinist; must be really good musicians; classical music; 4½ hours daily (Sundays excepted); perm. to right men. Terms, refs., &c., to Box 4,415, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class 'Cello for Picture Hall, twice nightly and 2 mats., in the North. Lowest terms (inclusive) and ref., to H. Bull, Hippodrome, Darlington.

WANTED, Wanted, at once, 'Cello Player.
Good appearance. For Variety Act on tour. Lady or gent. Salary required. Splendid opportunity for smart person.
Apply (letters only),
T. H. B., c/o Hippodrome, Leeds.

WANTED, good Pianist; also Organist, to combine Violin or Viola; gent. Write full particulars, Box 4,405, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Pianiste-Vocalist, for permanency; must have thorough orchestral experience; sea-side town, South of England. Box 4,427, "The Era."

WANTED, Pianist; must be first-class; Orchestral and Solo; for yearly engagement at Seaside. Good terms. Apply, Box 4,387, "The Era."

THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE, NR. MANCHESTER.
WANTED, a Full Orchestra, to commence Monday, March 10; experienced men only; send lowest terms or call at the theatre. Apply, Manager, Tom N. Mills. Mulloholland communicate.

WANTED, Band, for Variety Show; 10, including Conductor (to play piano or other instrument); for nine days at Easter, Whit week, and seven weeks from July 21. Ladies' Band not barred. State terms, separate, and references. Apply, Manager, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, Solo Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contrabassists, to register for Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black's Orchestras (Atlantic liners, Picture, and First-class Hotels).
Applicants required to attend audition in Liverpool or London. State age, experience, and give two responsible references for personal character. Apply by letter, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

COUNTY ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin and Viola. None but competent players need apply. Must be single, and not over 35 years of age. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, rising by annual increments of £3 to £45, and according to promotion to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Apply to the Medical Superintendent.

A.M.U. WARNING.
WANTED, Members of the Union to note that they must not accept engagements in Hyde, Cheshire, till dispute is settled.
J. B. WILLIAMS,
Gen. Secretary.

WANTED, Musicians to Keep Away From Bordesley During Dispute.
J. B. Williams,
General Secretary A.M.U.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by H. Briscoe Kimberley, Musical-Director (piano); tour or resident; experienced all lines; large library; best offers. 21, Bourne-street, Dudley.

WANTED, Musical-Directorship; theatre, music hall, café, or pictures; thoroughly experienced; Dublin or district. Conductor, Box 4,411, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Conductor-Violinist, at Liberty April to October; up-to-date library; highest references. Address, Conductor, 40, Loreburn-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, immediate Engagement, by Pianist-Conductor; thoroughly experienced, excellent refs. and testimonials. Collings, Drill Hall, Bromsgrove, Worcs.

WANTED, Engagement by Leader (cornet); tenting; good repertoire of music; steady. H. James, 15, Lower Drayton-place, Croydon, Surrey.

WANTED, by Lady, Orchestral and Solo Violinist, engagement either at home or abroad. Must be permanent. Box 4,420, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, disengaged, Lady Violinist; in London preferred; any business. Apply, Box 4,421, "The Era."

WANTED, by First-class Violinist, Position.
Joseph Schmitz, 30, Petherton-road, Canonbury, N.

WANTED, Engagement by good Cornet, through disappointment; young, reliable, experienced any business; first-class references. Frank Reilly, Iveagh House, Bride-road, Dublin.

WANTED, (through closing), Engagement by good Cornet Player; sober and reliable; liberty March 10. Cornet, c/o Hall, 3, Shotton-terrace, Yarm-lane, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, by good Cornet, First or Second, Theatre, Variety, or Picture Palace; references if required; at liberty March 3, 1913. A. Launder, 81, Green-st., Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornet, exp. Var., Military, Symphony; flat pitch if necessary; young, steady, reliable; can open at once; A.M.U. Davies, c/o Carrie, 32, Raglan-st., Dundee.

WANTED, Engagement as Solo Cornet; first-class experience, Operatic and Variety business; highest references. Address, Cornettist, 38, Upper Lewes-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, thoroughly reliable, first or second, any business, can open at once. Robson, 2, Waterhouse-terrace, Upper Kirkgate, Halifax.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement. Experienced man. Good refs.
Box 4,332, "The Era."

WANTED, by Steady, String Bass (perm. pref.); drama or pictures; Union terms; at liberty after two weeks' notice present shop. Basso, c/o Carson, 14, Kelly-st., Greenock.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone; thoroughly experienced; highest refs.; strict sobriety, &c. E. Scott, 49, Lanfranc-rd., Worthing.

WANTED, Engagement, Oboe, any business; Season or Permanent. Good refs.
C. Simmons, 46, Boundary-road, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboeist, first-class performer, thoroughly experienced, steady and reliable. Oboeist, 42, Cazenove-road, Walthamstow, London.

WANTED, an Engagement by thoroughly experienced Viola; any business. Viola, 38, Kitson-road, Camberwell-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Flautist, Varieties or Pictures London or Suburbs, deputise experienced, sober, reliable, Gray, 59, Kentor-road, Tooting, S.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Flautist, highly experienced, open for odd weeks till May 10, any business. Grand Opera Symphony Concerts or Military; or would deputise. High and Flat pitch instruments. Brilliant soloist. Sidney Jones, 6, Harrowdene-road, Knowle, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced and competent Flautist, through unexpected closing of Empire, Southport. Fred Tunney, Empire, Southport.

WANTED, Wanted, Engagement, by Lady Harpist.
Thoroughly experienced and brilliant soloist.
Write, Box 4,428, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Harpist, Disengaged. Thoroughly experienced solo and orchestral player. Box 4,043, "The Era."

WANTED, by Harpist, brilliant Soloist, Summer Engagement. Maud Estlin Grundy, 78, Parkhill-rd., Hampstead. 'Phone, 167 Hampstead.

WANTED, Known, Lady Pianist, Mustel Organ, desires to receive offers of good London engagement from Managers of Cinema Theatres. Good salary wanted for a first-class artiste. Absolutely reliable. Box 4,416, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by brilliant young Pianist; London preferred. Address, Cleere, 31, Abbotshall-road, Catford, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Clara Jones (pianist), disengaged (orchestral and accompanist); London preferred; would deputise. 10, Mount-road, Wimbledon Park, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, clever Young Pianist (male), Orchestra or Concert Party, good accompanist, experienced. Dowley, 87, Cranfield-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement for one week, March 3, Drums, Flute and Piccolo, Trombone, Cornet, Violin, Clarinet, Piano. Wire, Tidswell, Hippodrome, Accrington.

WANTED, Engagement as First-class Drums or Viola, through closing of theatre, London or Seaside. Nevill, 45, West-street, Croydon.

Summer Tour of Holiday Resorts.
WANTED, Known, High-class Concert Party has vacant dates. For particulars apply Box 4,385, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to Picture Theatres, Mme. Walter can supply Ladies' or Gentlemen's Bands.
All experienced performers and picture players.
29, Southampton-st., Fitzroy-sq., London.

WANTED, Known, Miss Nellie Rennison's Ladies' Orchestra, liberty Easter; good offers only. Terms and particulars, 23, Franklin-rd., Bournville, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, disengaged, Quartette of Ladies; Hotel or Café preferred; for Summer Season. Apply, Box 4,422, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Herr Paul Schafer's String Orchestra will be Disengaged shortly; extensive library; uniform if required. Apply, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

WANTED, Engagement, at Seaside, by First-Class Orchestra; large or small; Dance Music a speciality; extensive and up-to-date library. Apply, Box 4,407, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTED.

WANTED, Useful Circus Artistes; also a few good Knockabout Clowns; to open Easter Monday. Address,
Sir R. Fossett,
Lodge Farm, Tiffield, Towcester.

WANTED for tenting, 1913, Knife Throwers, Lassoers, and a good act with drawing power new to Scotland; a few useful Circus Artistes; a good augouste, and talking and tumbling clown; all must be steady and strictly sober. Apply, with full particulars in first letter. Address, Thomas Pinder, Millgate Steading, Winchburgh, Linlithgowshire, Scotland.

WANTED, for Swallow's International Circus, Several Cowboys, with Own Outfits; Rope Spinners, and Stock-Whip Crackers. Also one or two Ground Acts. 6, Thornley-st., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Rollo, the World's Highest Slack Rope Artiste, at liberty for Carnivals, Fêtes, and Galas, &c. Address, Evans's Carnival, Tollcross, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, the world-known Comedy Musical and Talking Clown, vacant for summer season. 16, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

PALACE, DURHAM. On the Main Line.
WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, and Novelties, for immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, on salary, or to find complete programme on share.
Arthur Carlton, New Theatre, Worcester.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Top Liners, also Artistes All Lines Comedy, Specialities, and Big Novelties, March 10, 17, 24.
1, Cross Flatts Drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone: 4195; Tele.: "Alarm, Beeston, Yorks."

EMPIRE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, First-class Turns.
Always open for anything big.
Share or Certainty.

All communications to
W. K. Chatto,
Manager, Empire Theatre, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Big Tops (shares or salary), Artistes all Lines, March 10, onwards. Can offer ten weeks; journeys short. Kennedy Circuit, Empire, Smethwick.

HARRY LEATON'S AGENCY,
575, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

'Phone, 1075 Charing Cross.
Wires, "Cockney, Glasgow."

WANTED, Several Big Tops (Salary or Sharing), and Artistes of every description, until March 10 week, 1913. Full list of bookings, lowest terms, lithos, &c., immediately. Represented all over the country. Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, Variety Artistes coming North Send Vacant Dates, Terms, and Half-dozen Blank Memos, to Anderson's Agency, 6, Gt. Clyde-street, Glasgow.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Good Variety Combinations, March 31 and April 14.
Stanley Rogers, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

PICKARD'S ENTERPRISES, GLASGOW.
WANTED, for Monday next, and onwards, Star Specialities,
Comediennes, Sisters,
and any Drawing Top-liners.
Four weeks certain.
PICKARD, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
BIG SPECIALITY ACTS,
BIG COMEDY ACTS,
BIG ANIMAL ACTS,
for
Blackpool, Morecambe, Douglas, Southport, and
Artistes in all lines for other towns.
Send dates, terms, &c., to
Will Sley,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, for March 10. Strong Magnetic Attractions; must be really big Top Liners; preference given to Big Sensational Acts or something of a very novel character; also Acts of every Description for the following dates: March 17, 24, and 31, April 21, May 5, 12, onward. Address, with lowest terms and full particulars, to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

IRELAND.
WANTED, March 3, onwards, Variety Artistes, all lines; must be new to Newry. Singles, Doubles doing Singles, Sister Acts, Sketches, Musical and Novelty Acts. Good break Belfast, Dublin, Cork, &c. Lowest terms to Manager, Mitchel Assembly Hall, Needham-place, Newry.

WANTED, for Great Variety Competition, £1 Prize, Turns, Foresters, Thursday afternoon; Bow and Sadler's Wells, Friday night. State hall you wish to appear to Competition Manager, Sadler's Wells Theatre, Islington. Send stamp for reply.

JAZON'S AGENCY,
ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Proprietors, M. Montgomery and E. C. Jazon.
Telephone, 5798. Telegrams, "Panto, Liverpool."

WANTED, the Biggest and Best Acts of every description for the following towns:—
Derby, Nottingham, Birmingham, Blackburn, Carlisle, Stockport, Southport, Burnley, Halifax, Huddersfield, Wakefield, Bilston, Wednesbury, Stalybridge, &c.
Can give suitable Act 40 weeks.
Send actual terms and list of bookings.
Open to Solely Represent a few more Acts.

Wanted, Pantomime Artistes, all lines.
Communications to Jazon's Agency,
Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Young Lady Step Dancers,
Young Lady Step Dancers.
Young Lady Step Dancers.
15 to 18 years of age.

Apply any time to
Mr. Herbert Jackson.
48, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Six Young and Pretty Girls, must have good voices and figures, and over 5ft. 3in. in height. Apply, full particulars,
Box 4,408, "The Era."

WANTED, a Lady Swimmer, for Tank Performance, commencing Easter. Stacia write. Oceanus, Forrest's Picture Hall, Burdett-road, Mile End, London.

PALACE THEATRE, READING, and NEW THEATRE, NORTHAMPTON.
WANTED, Known, all Communications should be addressed to W. T. Simmons, Managing-Director, Palace Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Wanted, March 3, 17.
Original Madge Goodall.
Roguish and Winning, without vulgarity.
Wire, Correct, Glasgow; or 86, Hospital-street, Glasgow, S.S.

WANTED, Monday next, by Daisy Hicks, London's Popular Chorus Comedienne.
Wire for an attraction. Emp., Stroud, Glos.

THE THREE ROSSLYNS
(Sylvia, Gracie, and Elaine),
in
"THOSE TERRIBLE TOMBOYS"
(A Musical Song-Scena).
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, March 17 and 24, to follow Aberavon and precede Caerphilly. Huge success. New act. New songs. Fine dresses. All coms., Graham Hylton, Hippodrome, Loughborough. Manager and proprietor, Rex Palmer, 50, Duke's-avenue, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, March 10, by Harry Keeble, the Novelty Ventriloquist, and Gladys Wells, England's Premier Chorus Vocalist. 15, Weltje-road, Hammersmith, London.

WANTED, Known, Charles Crayford, "The Kentish Mystic," vacant March 3. This, G.P.O., Aldershot. Smart Stage Set. Original Magical Act.

WANTED, March 10 and March 17, Scotland or North preferred, by Venturini.
Great Illusion Act; three new big illusions; two or three lady assistants; great sensational novelty; sure draw; good top or bottom. March 3, Palace, Arbroath, N.B.

WANTED, March 17 and 24, by LENARO.
The Grotesque Juggler, in skill and humour. A stage full of funny props. Special scenery and effects. Coms., Palace, Winsford.

WANTED, March 10, 17, 24, 31, by Rohde and Roche, who present to you their original Novelty and Comedy Pot-Pourri Act, "The Chameleon, the Artist, and IT." Another success, Royal Palace, Ramsgate. March 3, Olympia, Stackstead, Bacup. See advert. "Wednesday Era."

WANTED, by Thorpe and Coe, in their celebrated Comedy Playlets, "My Burglar" and "The First of the Fourth," March 17, between Glasgow and Liverpool. This, E., Newcastle. Next, Empire, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Monday next; also March 10, 17, and later dates. Khrel and Khrel, great Spectacular Comedy Musical Star Pot-Pourri Act. Add., 56, Gloucester-cres., Regent's Park, London.

WANTED, March 17 (follow Hippo., Buxton), by the Thespians (Louie and Harry), Comedy Playlets, or Double. 23, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Comedy Triple Bar Gymnasts, at liberty for Galas, Easter and May, onwards. All coms., Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, March 10 and 24, by The Tissots, Originators of Living Marionettes and Famous Cat Duet. This, Picturedrome, Wellington; next, Picturedrome, Nantwich.

"THE WONDERFUL WINDOW."
The Latest Electrical Illusion.
WANTED, Known, vacant, March 10, onwards. Connorton.
76, Lavender Sweep, Battersea Rise, S.W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, March 10, March 10, CARTER LIVESEY AND COMPANY, in "AN AMATEUR ANARCHIST."
Copy of Unsolicited Letter.
Empire Theatre and Opera House, York.
Feb. 8, 1913.
Dear Mr. Livesey,—
Allow me to congratulate you on the excellence of your show. It is one of the best comedy numbers on the road. I wish to claim the option of a return date with you as per Clause 16. Will you kindly send a list of your vacant dates?
Yours faithfully,
W. PEACOCK.
Address, Empire, Hackney.
Next, Empire, Wood Green.

"WRONG 'UNS!" Twenty minutes' hearty laughter and applause. Booked and re-booked at every provincial hall of note. Five people. Played, dressed, and staged on West End lines. Own beautiful scenery and effects. Refer anywhere.

WANTED, March 24 (precede Southport), May 26 (follow Reading), Aug. 18 (between Newcastle and Bradford), Sept. 1 and 8 (precede Chatham). James Hare, County T., Bangor, direct, or Harry Burns, or Ernest Dottridge.

ALFRED WELLESLEY,
in a Delightful Comedietta,
"UNCLE'S COURTSHIP."
WANTED, March 10, and 17, between Eastbourne and Empire, Sheffield. Booked into 1915 by Moss, Stoll, De Frece, Barrasford, Gibbons, Syndicate, &c.
Three Artistes. Runs 18 minutes
Feb. 24, Barnard's Palace, Chatham.
March 3, Hippo., Eastbourne.

WANTED, Fetes and Galas, Season, 1913, by the Three Hodginis, Continental Stage Aerial Gymnastic Wonders; also Mlle Deton et Cie., Juggling Balancing Act, on Aerial Slack Wire; splendid apparatus; attractive printing; full co. if required. M. Hodgini, Manager, 17, Lime-grove, Henshaw-road, Small Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, March 24, other dates, one great, dashing Act, with drawing powers which mean money for the person that engages me.
Chard's Dogs,
Public Hall, Pontcymmer, S. Wales.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, Humorists, Reciters, Entertainers, &c., to send me their permanent address; something of distinct advantage. Harold D. Foster, Ashville, Halifax.

PIERROT WANTS.

WANTED, Known, well-known Musical Comedian, Pianist, and Instrumentalist, Vacant for the Summer; only first-class offers entertained. Offers to Box 4,413, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Tenor, good voice and range, open to join Concert Party, or would combine with another vocalist for duets, &c. Gordon, 546, High-road, Chiswick.

WANTED, Known, Fred Walker, Refined Low Comedian; well up in everything; manage and produce. This, Palace, Maidstone. Next, 91, Chatham-st., Old Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, by two Youths, an Engagement with Concert Party for the summer at seaside; can sing and dance. Apply to H. Harrison, 59, Cadogan-street, Cadogan-square, Chelsea.

WANTED, Known, Cecilia Concert Party opens Easter; piers, pavilions. Also Highland Lassies Orchestra, very attractive; sure draw. Manager, 44, Princes-road, Liverpool.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE ROUNDABOUT PROPRIETORS AND SHOWMEN'S UNION.
President, George Green.

WANTED, Known, the Next Meeting of the Union will be at the Queen's Hotel, Bury, Tuesday next, March 4, at 2.30 p.m.
Business of local and general importance.
T. HORNE,
Secretary.

WANTED, a Good Run-Out Worker that thoroughly understands his business; wages ten per cent. Apply, 5, Lime-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Pianiste, for Auction Pavilion, one who can sing preferred. State terms, can join at once, W. Potts, Auctioneer, Preston.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Scenic Jungle, to join at once, Engine Driver, experienced with Electric Lamps, &c. Apply, Patricroft, near Manchester, till March 4.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Scenic Jungle, to commence March 20, Four Horse Keepers, Six Inside Men. Apply, Patricroft, near Manchester, till March 4.

WANTED, Novelties or Freaks. Wanted, at once, Performing Lions, Baby Incubators, Glass Blowing, or Mechanical Exhibition, with good flash paintings preferred. 88ft. long, about 22ft. wide; level with pavement; right between Music Halls, and entirely on your own. Electricity and Gas. A paradise for Showmen. Not a rag shop. Shares, salary, or rental. Ted Weeks, King's Hall, Plymouth.

WANTED, at once, good, quick, constant-showing Novelties, salary or shares. Wire or write full particulars, Manager, 262, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, First-class Attraction for Trades Exhibition; joy wheel would be absolutely new; liberal sharing terms offered. State particulars, Box 4,426, "The Era."

WANTED, Side Show, on share; best position Southport; share; open Good Friday for season if suitable. Milton, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, Quick Showing Novelties, to open Monday next, crowded thoroughfare, on sharing terms. Apply, 36, Gardner-street, Brighton, Sussex.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, French Giant, 18 years old, 2 metres 12 high, weight 160 kilos; new for England; contract, share, or salary. P. Dannonay, Impresario, 3, Rue Félissent, Lyon, France.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines, Punch Ball, Electric Witch, Working Model, Loops, &c.; bargains. British Co., 457, High-rd., Tottenham, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Showman and Fair Goods, Swing Ropes, Flare Lamps, Winding and Electric Targets, &c. British Co., 457, High-road, Tottenham.

WANTED, to Sell, "Pantescope," H[illegible] War; 13 life-size Pictures of Ba[illegible] Battlefields in Panorama Form, painted [illegible] brated artists. A sure hit if shown now. [illegible] 222, East India Dock-road, Poplar.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces, from [illegible] Sept. 30, for Side Shows, Fre[illegible] Games, Stalls, Automatics, Palmi[illegible] devices already [illegible]
Apply, Wilkie, Ne[illegible]

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, the following is a Complete List of Fairs, Feasts, and Wakes in England, Scotland and Wales for March :—

ENGLAND.

1 Alnwick (7,041)
1 Dudley (59,043)
1 Odiham (11,109)
1 Oswestry (9,991)
1 Wisbech (10,828)
3 Cornhill-on-Tweed (637)
3 St. Buryan's (2,611)
3 Stamford (9,646)
5 Belper (5,006)
5 Bury (58,640)
5 Morpeth (7,426)
6 Maiden Newton (5,555)
7 Castleton (8,000)
7 Hingham (1,564)
7 Stockport (105,693)
8 Alnwick (7,041)
10 Grantham (20,074)
12 Colne (24,693)
12 Wellington (Soms.) (7,634)
13 Accrington (91,428)
14 Ramsbottom (17,603)
14 Wadebridge (2,239)
15 Alston (Cumb.) (3,875)
15 Malton (4,822)
15 Pickering (3,674))
15 Pontefract (3,674)
18 Wotton-undtr-Edge (4,643)
19 Lowestoft (33,783)
20 Newcastle-on-Tyne (266,671)
20 Norwich (121,493)
20 Okehampton (3,175)
20 Rusholme (5,500)
21 Bacup (22,324)
21 Cullompton (9,484)
21 Doncaster (31,560)
21 Haslingden (15,723)
21 Hinckley (12.338)
21 Todmorden (25,445)
22 Bakewell (3,078)
22 Barnard Castle (4,757)
22 Bilston (25,681)
22 Birkenhead (130.382)
22 Blackburn (133,654)
22 Blackheath (21,000)
22 Carlisle (46,432)
22 Cheltenham (48,944)
22 Chorley (40,347)
22 Clevedon (6,741)
22 Coventry (106,377)
22 Deptford (109 495)
22 Exeter (48,662)
22 Falmouth (13,136)
22 Gainsborough (20,589)
22 Garston (27,284)
22 Godmanchester (2,133)
22 Gomersall (3,796)
22 Halesowen (26,755)
22 Hampstead Heath
22 Hendon (33,806)
22 Hollingworth Lake
22 Huddersfield (107,825)
22 Ilkley (7,992)
22 Jarrow-on-Tyne (33,732)
22 Longton (37,481)
22 Malvern (16,514)
22 Melton Mowbray (9,203)
22 Middlesbrough (104,787)
22 Midsomer Norton (7,200)
22 Morecambe (12,133)
22 New Brighton (10,961)
22 Northampton (90,076)
22 Northenden (2,351)
22 North Shields (50,000)
22 Portsmouth (231,155)
22 Queen's - road, Manchester.
22 Retford (13,386)
22 Richmond (33,223)
22 Rothwell (14,270)
22 Rushden (13,351)
22 Ryde (10,608)
22 Salford (231,380)
22 Seaforth (10,000)
22 Selby (7,780)
22 Shipley Glen
22 Sleaford (6,438)
22 Southport (51,650)
22 South Shields (108,440)
22 Stafford (25,385)
22 Torquay (38,772)
22 Trafford-road, Manchester.
22 Tring (4,451)
22 Wanstead Flats (13,831)
22 Wolverhampton (59,323)
22 Wormwood Scrubs
23 Bicester (3,385)
25 Folkestone (33,495)
25 Henley-in-Arden (1,009)
25 Leigh (Dorset) (398)
25 Ottery St. Mary (3,750)
26 Clitheroe (12,500)
26 Durham (17,550)
26 Hitchin (11,905)
26 Woodbridge (5,623)
27 Stamfordham (3,047)
27 Yarmouth (51,250)
28 Brighouse (20,845)
28 Derby (123,433)
29 Dewsbury (53,358)
31 Stourbridge (17,316)
31 Swindon (50,771)
31 Worthen (1,119)

SCOTLAND.

1 Berwick-on-Tweed (13,075)
3 Roxborough (958)
4 Jedburgh (4,662)
7 Kelso (4,525)
19 Dumfries (17,078)
22 Edinburgh (316,522)
25 Castle Douglas (3,039)
29 Moffat (2,000)

WALES.

8 Menai Bridge (8,640)
15 Penmorfa (1,486)
15 Pontardawe (31,507)
18 Corwen (7,375)
18 Cowbridge (1,167)
18 Rhyader (5,108)
21 Holyhead (10,638)
22 Cardiff (182,280)
22 Merther (80,999)
22 Mold (4,875)
22 Newport (83,700)
22 Towyn (3,929)
24 Holywell (2,749)
24 Pontypridd (22,215)
27 Llanfyllin (1,633)

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X-Rays.
Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Second-hand; Card Delivery. Mother Shipton's; marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines; the latest novelties and best money-takers. Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, ½d. and 1d. Slot Automatic Machines, all kinds, bargain lists free. Husband, Wife, Baby, Eye, Hair, Fortunes, Astrology Cards, 5s. 1,000. Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath, N.W.

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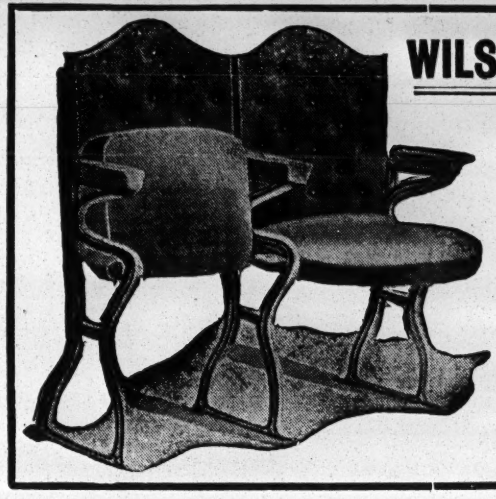

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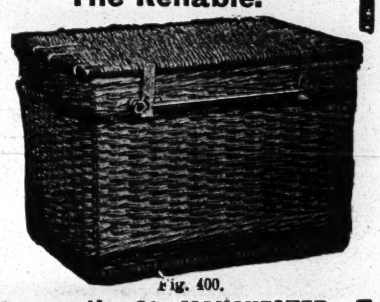
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PALMERS, THE FIVE MUSICAL. Monday next, Theatre Royal, Pontypool. Thanks to Mr. G. H. Pitt for further contracts.

PERMANE, CAPTAIN. Real Live Troupe of Teddy Bears. Teddy Bears. Vac. March 10. Pavilion, Chorley.

RAE, GEO., the Popular Eccentric Scot. Enormous Success with New Rag-time Number, by Harry Carlton, of London. March 3, Pal., Leicester.

RAYMOND, THE, ANIMATED PICTURE CO., 10 and 12, Garrick-street, London, W.C.

REEVES' VARIETY AGENCY, Heathfield, 331, Brixton-road, S.W. Tele., "Formerley, London." 'Phone, 1066 Brixton.

RENSHAW, NANCY. Laughing Negress and Bone Soloist. March 3, Barber's P. Palace, Fenton, Staffs.

RIVERS, PAULINE, Ballet Producer. 12 Little Sunshines, including LITTLE EMMIE. Dooner's (Town Hall), Brynmawr, S. Wales.

ROHDE and ROCHE, THE GREAT, present the Chameleon, the Artist, and IT. March 3, Olympia, Stacksteads, Bacup. See advt. "Wednesday Era."

ROZEL. An Artiste. That's all. 12, Georges-road, Liverpool.

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STEBBINGS, EDGAR, Variety Agent, 28, Egerton-street, Hulme, Manchester. Tels., "Stebbing." 'Phone, 9261 Central.

ST. JOHN, BROS. Music, Humour, Dancing. Sailing to South Africa March 15. Vac. for Panto. 1913-14. 21, Granby-st., Liverpool.

STOCKWELL, WALTER, Comedian. Terrific hit, E., Edmonton. Vac. Mar. 10, 17. Wire or write, 25, Mostyn-rd., Brixton. March 6, Granville, Special Mat.

SYDNEY, MASTER. Monday, Hippodrome, Colchester. March 10, Hippo., Lowestoft.

SYLVESTER'S FETE and VARIETY AGENCY. Estab. 1878. Licensed by L.C.C. 271, Clapham-road, London, S.W. 'Phone, 2064 Brixton.

TALBOT and CLARE. "An Eastern Absurdity." Monday, Hippo., Peterborough.

TEMPLES, THREE ROYAL. This, Hippo., St. Helens. Next, Pavilion, Blaydon. Coms., Harry Leaton.

TERRY, SISTERS (Bella and Minnie). Big hit, Chas. Elderton's Panto., "Aladdin." March 3 (Return), Hippo., Darlington.

THORNE, ROSALINE, Contralto Vocalist. Own Descriptive, Illustrated, or Ballads. Per. add., 32, North-side, Clapham Common, S.W.

TUDORA'S (EDITH) PONIES. Vac. March 17, between Reading and Tunbridge Wells. Coms., Theatre Royal, Crook, Durham.

TYMES, THE. Prettiest of all Song Scenas, "The Enchanted Clock" (3446). De Lacy and Tymes' Panto., Theatre, Millom.

VINCENT. Acrobatic Table Expert. March 3, Circus of Varieties, Bury.

WELDA and WYNNE (Bert and Dorothy). This week, Hippo., Bedminster. Next week, O.H., Harrogate. Vacant March 10. Wire.

WHEELER'S (late Beecham and Wheeler) Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agency, 12, Henrietta-street, W.C. Tel., 1280 Ger.

WHITEMAN, J. C. Entertainment Expert and Variety Agent. Pack Horse Hotel, Briggate, Leeds.

WILDER BROTHERS, Pyrotechnic Artistes, Gala and Fête Agents. 29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WILSON, J. A., and Private Towser. March 3, CO-OPERATIVE HALL, CREWE. Vacant March 17 and 24. Wire or write above; or Agents, Shaw's Agency, 18, Adam-street, Strand, London. A. D. McFarlane, 136, Renfield-street, Glasgow.

YAMAMOTO and MISS KOYOSHI TROUPE. Celebrated Japanese Equilibrists and Entertainers. Perm., 30, Rue d'Orsel, Paris. March 3, Palace, Ilkeston. Vacant March 17, 31, May 5, on. Share or certainty if required with Own Company.

ZENITH and WHYTE. "The Jelly Wobble."

APPLICATIONS for POSITIONS on the BACK PAGE of "The Era" should be addressed to the Publisher.

RE-ADDRESSING.

Artistes using "The Era" Office as their permanent address can have their letters re-addressed immediately on their arrival by giving information to the Manager, "The Era" Letter Department.

LITTLE BETTY RENÉE,
THE WORLD'S GREATEST CHILD DANSEUSE.
IN TOWN.

[*Photo by Jas Bacon & Sons.*

Vide Press, "Birmingham Weekly Post," Feb. 8, 1913:—
"Little Betty Renée charmed the audience with her wonderful dancing. She reproduced with remarkable ability two of Madame Pavlova's acts, the Pas-Seul and the Passing of the Swan. This little girl, who is only twelve years of age, will doubtless take a prominent place in the dancing world of the future."

Do not fail to see this Wonder Child.
ALL COMS. C/o "THE ERA."

"At the risk of being considered ungallant, I must express the opinion that the average lady ventriloquist is not very convincing, the difference in the voices being so slight. The best I have yet heard to overcome this defect is Miss Josephine Langley, who has been appearing at the Leeds City Varieties this week. Her 'boy's' voice is full and deep as the youth of fifteen whose voice is breaking, and her other voices are quite distinct in pitch and intonation. It is altogether a clever performance. She learned the art by mimicking her brother, who was a successful ventriloquist, now retired from the stage, and has been at it since twelve years of age, though she has only been two years on the halls."—"Yorkshire Post," Dec. 31, 1912.

JOSEPHINE LANGLEY,
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Several Tours Broadhead, V.T. Controlling Coy., Stoll, Coliseum, London Syndicate, and for every independent Hall away from the Tours. Fully Booked from Jan. 1, 1912, till Dec. 7, 1914. All contracts by my Sole Agent:
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THE GILFILLANS
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CISSIE LAWSON
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(By CLYDE FITCH), at the
SHOREDITCH EMPIRE,
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Telephone: 1050 & 1051 GERRARD. *[INTERVIEWS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.]* Telegrams: "TWIGSOME, LONDON."

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 3, 1913.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

"Hullo, Rag-time!" Rich Taylor, Carl Lynne, Leeds & Lemar, Bioscope, Barat.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

"The Lodgers," The Great Weiland, Four Amaranths, Jack Warman, La Milo, Harry Weldon, Quigley Bros., Bioscope, Gillespie & Kingston.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Fred Earle, Kenna Bros., Tom Woottwell, "Everybody," Friend & Downing, May Beatty, Bioscope, Thornton & Wagner, Robins & Collier, Bi-Ber-Ti.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"Ben Hur."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Ivan Kotchinsky, The Keppels, Jack Marks, Pictures.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Ray Wallace, Dick Tubb, Lecardo Bros., Sam Kelly, Elliott Savonas, Winifred Ward, Solo, Bioscope, Leipzig, Katbi Cultini.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Doughty & Laney, Elias Sebach, S. W. Wyndham, Lil Hawthorne, Willard, Fred Barnes, Durant Bros., Bioscope, Robert Riley.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Nelson Jackson, Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Vera Le Fleming, Houdini, Bioscope, Billy French, Griffiths & Carmen, Billy Matchett.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Blanco White, Emilie Clifford, Jessie Buckle, Pictures.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

The Glens, Winifred Keer, Pictures.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Grey, Jack Roscoe, Cornalla & Eddie, The Rawsons, Stacey & Williams, Wilkie Bard, Barton & Ashley, Olive Armidale, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Harry Fields, Nightingale & Stignant, Bioscope, Ida Barr, Lane & O'Donnell, Albert Whelan, Herbert Darnley's Co., including Jay Laurier, Ivey Latimer, Hands & Lorenzi, Fred Keeton.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Eustace Gray's "Palladium Minstrels."

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for; —

"The Cattle Thief."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

The Great Roland, Lulu Valli, Irene Dillon, Tucker, Miss Beryl Mercer & Co., Mason & Bart, Bioscope, Billy Merson, Chromo & Hamilton.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Tina Paynola, Paul Regent, Hylda Lethwaite, Pictures.

Artistes in the Midlands wishing to submit trials for their acts should apply to the manager of this theatre.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Erne & Chester, Crystal & Saville, Chas. Norton, Daisy Sloan, Chas. Austin, The Delevines, Bioscope, Daisy Taylor, Dale & O'Malley.

Notice to Artistes.

The management invite artistes engaged in Birmingham to take advantage of the handsome and high-class lounge which has recently opened adjoining the Empire Theatre, and under the same management. All facilities are provided for correspondence, &c.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Cecil Lyle, Talbot & Pearce, Louie Tracey, Bioscope, Ernest Shand, The Grotesques, Bella & Bijou, Donal McDougal, Victoria Troupe.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Juggling Nelson, Annie Heenan, Peter & Potts, Mann & Franks, G. H. Chirgwin, The Craggs, Bioscope, Tom E. Dean, Ed. Marris & Co.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Marjorie Dawson, Six Ceylons, Howard & Harris, Whit Cunliffe, Tew & Lea, The Harlequinaders, Tom Costello, Russel Brandow, Paulhan Team.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Jack Thomas, Austen Temple, Camp & Critic, Jen Latona, Princess D'Aryaba, Bioscope, Mona Warwick, Bros. Miller, Ike & Will Scott, Fred Russell.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Lloyd Morgan, Lee & Kingston, The Whittakers, "The Concealed Bed," Spiegler Quintette, The Five Honeysuckles, The Cape Girls, Frank Elliston & Co., Bioscope, Bros. Curran.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Sammy Shields, Maudie Mortimer, Chass Lewis, George Lashwood, Tom Stuart, Bioscope, Edith Fink, Rob, Ivy & Lynn, Edie & Lupino, Gilday & Fox.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Resident-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Lily Langtry, Hal Baker, High Davos Trio, "Arms and the Girl," The Paulastos, Jock McKay, Bioscope, Jack Smiles, Russell Trio.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Stein-Esthor Trio, Harry Bedford, Lily Burnand, "The Rag-time Revue," Master Garnett, Bob & Jennie Leonard, Bioscope, Andrew McManus, Thorpe & Cce.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Roland Bros., James Stewart, Brooklyn Comedy Four, American Rag-time Octette, Tom Edwards, Nixon Grey, Harry Webber, Bioscope, Rosie Sylvester, Marie Santoi.

The following are booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Wullie Walker, Jonnie Johns, Max Franklyn Troupe, Radford and Valentine, Gene Greene, Lily Lister, The Three Lyres, Les Yost.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Susie Belmore, Strength Brothers, Stelling & Revell.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Cooper & Lait, Croiset Troupe, Frances Letty, Fred Shepherd, The Carbrey Boys, Bioscope.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Harry Taylor, Bioscope, Knock Simpson, Bert Errol, Ray Hartley, Maurice & Maurice, Les Trippellos, Field & Mansell, Murray and May.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Omega Trio, Pictures, Sunny Sarah Hicks, Harris Trio, Will & Neill, Des Desborough, Four Kemptons.

HER MAJESTY'S, WALSALL.

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GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"The Sheriff of Lonesome Pine."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND AGENTS.—When an artiste or act, having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the Contracts will be sent to the agent who negotiated the last engagement—unless notice has been received from the artiste that this is not desired. It is therefore important that should artistes change their agents, notification in writing be immediately sent to Moss' Empires, Ltd., stating through whom they desire their business transacted.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS. ANY ARTISTES ABSENTING THEMSELVES WILL BE LIABLE TO HAVE THEIR CONTRACTS CANCELLED.

SPECIAL PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE AT EACH THEATRE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF LOOSE PHOTOGRAPHS. ARTISTES ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY THESE TO THE MANAGER ON REACHING THE THEATRE, AND THEY WILL BE RETURNED IN GOOD CONDITION AT THE END OF THE WEEK

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artistes or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. **SILENCE, A POLITE NEGATIVE.** To avoid confusion Artistes employing Agents should accredit one only at one time to do their business.

BOOKING DEPARTMENT.—This department is now under the supervision of Mr. Ernest Wighton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artistes and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North should apply to the Manager, as Matinees are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. FRANK ALLEN or MR. ERNEST WIGHTON can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTES.—Artistes must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Head Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artistes will run the risk of having their engagements cancelled. IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artistes are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artistes' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTES WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

IMPORTANT.—All sketches produced at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. A complete copy of the script of every sketch as licensed, with a copy of the Lord Chamberlain's licence, must be sent to the Head Office twenty-one days at least before the performance of the sketch at any of the above Theatres.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the London Offices, and signed by either Mr. Frank Allen or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the London Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Calls for Monday, March 3, 1913.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 12.
Ernest Edelsten's Co. "Marked Money," Leslie Styles & Co., Bransby Williams, Dorothy Varick, Silbon's Circus, Sam Stern, Frances McNulty, Mlle. La Freya, Ben Albert, Signor Torti, Frank Maura, Four Cheres, Seven Bramusas.

TIVOLI.
Rehearsal at 12.
Ethel Warwick & Co., "Stolen Fruit," Mike S. Whallen, Hedges Bros. and Jacobsen, Anthony Ellis's Co., Knight of the Garter," Little Pam, Harry Williams, Nat Ayer, Gladys Huxley, Ross and Lewis, Morny Cash, Maidie Scott, Ida Crispi & Co.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
Ernest Rolls' Co. "Ragmania," Seven Perezoffs, F. M. Tallman, Jack Lane, Veronica Brady, Captain Grahame's Baboons, Clifford Morgan, Les Inconnus, Fitz Allen, King and Benson, George Ross, Syd Walker, the Four Vagabonds, Alexandre and Hughes, Hanley and Dunley.

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.45.
Herbert Sleath & Co., Karno's Village Sports, da Crispi, Edie King, Frank Sylvo, Harry Thurston, Flo Esdaile, Ernest Rees, Millie Payne, Four Kasracs, Jack Lane, Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
The Vivians, Geo. Barrett & Co., Walton and Lester, Bellonino, Stuart Cleveland, rie Brayman, Hartley and Vivienne, George Ross, Hillier and Dorothy, Nino and Nana, Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
D'Armand and Carter, Ella Erskine's Co., Herbert Sleath's Co., Barney Murphy, Ernest Rees, Edie King, Society Quartette, James Fawn, Alexandre and Hughes, Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Bertram Wallis's Musketeers, including Bertram Wallis, Herbert Clayton, Fredoric Norton and Nelson Keys, Jessie Milward & Co., Maidie Scott, Walton and Lester, Mark Leslie, Stuart Cleveland, Marie Brayman, Rose Hayes, Bioscope, Harry Marlowe.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Harry Tate, Five Cliftons, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Marie Courtenay, Sados and Assistant, Harry Wenburn, Doris Hunter, New Macs, King and Benson, Mark Leslie, Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW.
Rehearsal at 1.
Marie Kendall, Charles Whittle, Edith Evelyn & Co., Five Jovers, Naughton and Gold, Will Nosam, Sisters Caselli, Albert Letine, Mollie Seymour, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2.
Harry Tate & Co., Naughton and Gold, Charles R. Whittle, Marie Kendall, Will Nosam, Frank Melvin, Mollie Seymour, Fred Wilkinson, Hayman and Franklin, Bioscope.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Ten Loonies, James Willard & Co., Lady in Red, Veronica Brady, Dora Sephton, Stowe Bros., Bert Lloyd & Co., Lily Long, Ted Gill, Bioscope.

WATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1.
Durrant Swan's Co., "A Country Girl."

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VACANT—March 17 (Midlands).

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(Seven Artistes.)
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MARCH 3.
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and
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NOTICE.

The Secretary desires the addresses of the following members:—Costello and Freeman, the Mowatts, Wellman, Lydia Neilson, Montes and Welma, Ryan and Hall, Retford and Walsh, J. W. Knowles, Madge Northcote, Jack and Ted Lenford, Videos, and Clarke and Mostol. Will any member knowing the addresses of the above kindly communicate with the Secretary?

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Chairman and Treasurer, MR. HARRY BARNARD.

The Committee meet at 69, Kennington-road, the first and third Friday in every month at 3.30 to consider applications for admittance to the Home.

J. SPARROW, Secretary.

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Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.
ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR MARCH 3, 1913.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Violet Vanbrugh as "Lady Macbeth," Chung Ling Soo, Irene Vanbrugh & Co. in "Rosalind," Rinaldo, Belle Davis' Cracke Jacks, Carmen Turia, Mabel Sinclair, Three Stewarts, J. H. Scotland, Kinemacolor, Margaret Moffat and Co. in "The Scrub Lady."
Please note the Continental Pitch has been adopted by the Coliseum Orchestra.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"The Indian Scout," Selection, Agnes Treacy, Professor Thornbury, Bioscope, Drawee, Hambo and Frisco.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
"Mexico," Luis Hardt, Edna Lyall, Green and Wood, Ernie Mayne, Blake and Granby. Phil Ray, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Marie Lloyd, Victor Kelly, Phil Percival, Cabaret's Dogs, Four Elles, Leslie Bros., Harry Moore, Lily Leonhard, Bioscope, Stanley Thorn.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
The Three Rascals, James Learmouth in "The Station Master," Bioscope, Jack Lorimer, Lacori Family, Cruikshank, Alberta Flahey, Lydia and Amelys, Stella Stahl, Cliff Berzac's "Riding Academy."

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
James Learmouth in "The Station Master," Amy Clevere, Mona Raven, Bioscope, Cooke & Three Rotherts, Carter Livesey, Alex Picad Co., King's College Boys, Jessie Templeton, Rinaldo.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
The Harmony Four, The Haytors, Baron s Burlesque Menagerie, Bi-Bo-Bi, Alice Craven, The Five Petleys, Bioscope, Kara.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
George Mozart, Johnson and Bert, Mlle. Marjutti, Thora, Archie Naish, Bioscope, George Rae, Vera Wootton, Willie Brothe s.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"The Redskin," Alice Esty, Master Frank Wilson, Guy and Grahame, Three Collegians, Smite and Smote, Bioscope, La Pia.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Anna Eva Fay, Signor Giovanni Chiti, Henri de Vries & Co., Rene Ralph, Cosgrove and Burns, Bioscope, Cooper Mitchell, Wee Georgie Wood.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Gus Elen, Hanlon Bros. & Co., in "The Haunted Hotel," Phil and Nettie Peters, Parks' Eton Boys, Little Ganty, Gladys Mavius, Bioscope, Allan McDonald & Co. in "The Elder of the Kirk," Potter and Hartwell.

LEICESTER FLORAL HALL.
Pictures.

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

FULHAM EMPIRE.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. Bristol Hippodrome requires 20 parts, including 3 first violins and piano part for harp.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Telegraphic Address: "Broadheads, Manchester,"
National Telephone: 7359 & 7360 Manchester.

Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen between the Hours of 10 and 1 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 3, 1913.

ASHTON—Empire Hippodrome.—Harry Foxwell's Co., "Only a Mill Girl." **2.**

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE—Empress Roller Rink. — Skating, Two Sessions Daily.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE — Pavilion Theatre.—Three Merry Wags, Pictures, **11.** Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, **2.30.**

BURY—Hippodrome.—Marius Low & Co., Baby Beatie, Pictures, Walter Stanley, Fimans, Hardene and Mosford, Cling and Clancy, Bernard, Tom Gott. **2.**

ECCLES—Crown Theatre.—Ketos, Royde and Villiers, Pictures. **2.**

LIVERPOOL—Pavilion Theatre.—Harry Foxwell's Co. in "The Gambler." **2.**

MANCHESTER — Hippodrome.—Walter Bird's Co., Junora and Partner, Motley Four, Anna Dorothy, Rowlands and Ford, Glenroy Troupe, Four Boises, J. W. Hall. **2.**

MANCHESTER-Junction Theatre.—The South Manchester Amateur Operatic Society in "The King of Cadonia." **2.**

MANCHESTER—King's Theatre.—S. R. Squire's Co., "Leah Kleschna." **2.**

MANCHESTER—Metropole Theatre.—F. Wybert Clive's Co. in "The Outcast of the Family." **11.** Matinée, Monday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER.—Osborne Theatre. — Lodge Percy, Henrietta Schrier and Repertoire Co. **2.**

MANCHESTER — Queen's Park Hippodrome.—J. A. Campbell's Co., "The Queen Mother." **2.**

MORECAMBE—Winter Gardens.—Dancing, Pictures, &c. **11.**

PRESTON — Hippodrome. — Cecilia Dare and Repertoire Co. **11.** Matinée, Monday, **2.30.**

PRESTON — Palace Theatre. — Arnold Richardson & Co., Penman and Miller, Herbert Shelley, Romanys, Reg. Wentworth, Angers and Escott. **1.**

SALFORD — Hippodrome. and Winsford's Co. in "The P Prairies." **2.** Matinée, Tuesda

MISS MARIE LLOYD.
March 3, EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Sole Representative, Walter Bentley.
New Songs and Dresses on her return to town.

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ALEXANDRA DAGMAR.
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Business-Manager, G. Barclay.

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The Dapper Dandy Boy.
Feb. 24, London Pavilion.
March 3, EMPIRE, LIVERPOOL.
Mr. Tom Claxton.

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The World's Greatest Chorus Singer.
PANTOMIME.
March 3, REGENT THEATRE, SALFORD.

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DORMA MORGAN.
Refined Versatile Comedienne.
Coms., The Crumbles, St. Anthony's-avenue, Eastbourne.
Pantomime 1913-14, title-rôle, Messrs. Milton Bode and J. F. Graham's "Jack Horner."

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The only Lady Dancing Act on the Wire.
Has a few Vacancies this year.
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Bottom of Bill Stratford.
Enormous success.
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It was particularly fascinating to watch Bertie Adams' fascinating ways, as June, in "Autumn Manœuvres," last night.—"Manchester Press." Next week, PLYMOUTH.
Coms., Blackmore's Agency.

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Will make a welcome re-appearance in BIRMINGHAM next week at the GRAND, with an entirely new Act.
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Vacant March 3, onwards.
Vaudeville or Musical Comedy.
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March 3,
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The Woman who is Never Herself.
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All Written and Composed by Mamie Fenton.
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A Furore at Lyell Tayler's Wagnerian Concert. Dome, Brighton, Feb. 26.
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There is no breaking open safes in this Act.

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Written by Wal Pink.
Music by J. S. Baker.
Another Screaming Success.

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The Success of the Year,
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One long laugh from start to finish.
Always something new.
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